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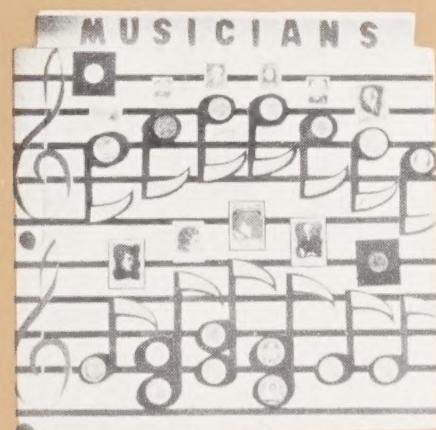
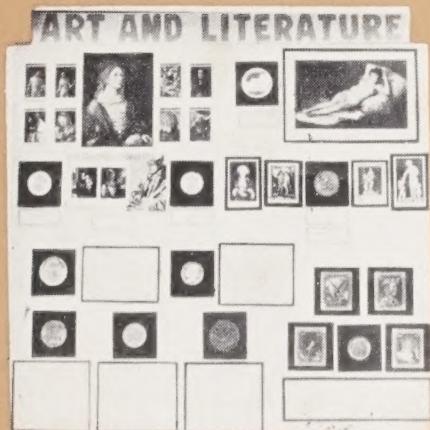
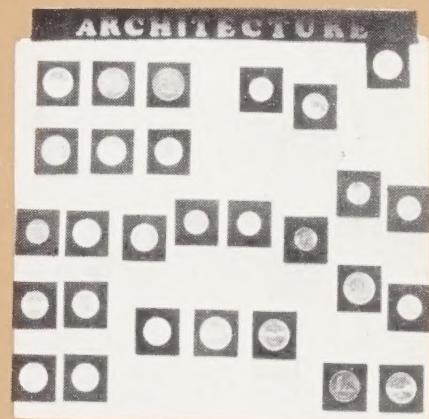
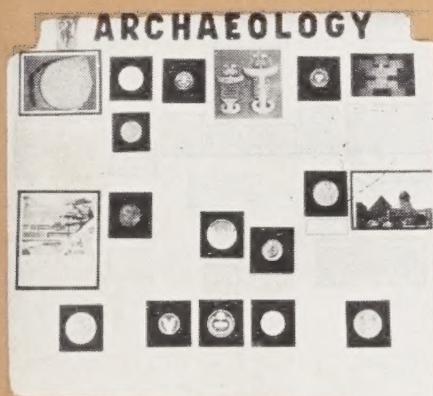
# BARRILLA

THE CENTRAL BANK MONEY MUSEUM QUARTERLY

VOL. III

JANUARY 1976

NO. 1







# BARRILLA

## THE CENTRAL BANK MONEY MUSEUM QUARTERLY

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COVER features a first prize trophy surrounded by some of the winning entries in the competitive exhibition at the recent National Numismatic Convention. For more on the affair, turn to page 3.

# Editorial

## EDITORIAL

**T**he 2nd National Numismatic Convention of the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society held November 21-23, 1975 by all accounts represented a great step forward from the first one held a year earlier. There were noticeable improvements in organization, procedure, and locale, as well as innovations such as the setting up of competitive exhibits and the giving of both prizes and awards at an awards and fellowship dinner. The presence of numismatists from Malaysia, Mexico, Spain and the United States who had made the trip to Manila especially for the occasion attested to the growing international prestige of the PNAS. The fact that some of the organizers of this second convention were also among those running the first one shows that they have the ability to learn from experience and from the observations of those PNAS members who have attended numismatic conventions abroad such as the recent A.N.A. Convention in Los Angeles last August.

The Central Bank's Money Museum, whose second birthday is being marked by this issue of *Barrilla*, can justifiably claim part of the credit for the recent progress of Philippine numismatics in general and the success of this second convention in particular. In its two years of existence in which around 84,000 people have visited it, the Museum has awakened the interest of many people, especially the youth, in the hobby of coin and paper money collecting. It has reinforced the scholarly and aesthetic aspects of the hobby which were in danger of being overshadowed by investment considerations. Through *Barrilla*, it projected Philippine numismatics abroad as never before. The officers of the PNAS deserve the primary credit for the success of the second convention, but it is no detraction from their labor and dedication to say that without the CB Money Museum this second convention would not have taken the shape nor achieved the success that it did.

## P.N.A.S. Holds Second National Convention

by

Antonio M. del Mundo



Mrs. Fayga Gordon of New York cuts the traditional ribbon officially opening the 3-day convention. Witnessing the ceremonies are Dra. Angelita G. Legarda, Mr. Manuel P. Manahan, Mr. Guy Davis, Mrs. Consuelo Davis, Mrs. Bitong, Mrs. Sony Bantug, Mr. Antonio Bantug, Mrs. A.B. Tan, Mrs. I. Paez, and Mr. Danny Tantoco.

In observance of National Numismatic Week, the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society, which was designated by presidential proclamation to take charge of the annual celebration, held its Second National Convention on November 21-23, 1975 at the Grand Ballroom of the Intercontinental Hotel in Makati. The three-day affair was formally opened with the traditional ribbon-cutting ceremonies performed by **Mrs. Fayga Gordon**, a guest from Mamaroneck, New York, U.S.A.

A marked improvement over last year's

convention was the holding for the first time, aside from the usual bourse trading, of competitive exhibits in five categories, namely — Philippine Coins, Medals & Tokens, U.S. & World Coins, Paper Money & Banknotes, and the Junior Exhibit.

Trading was more brisk than last year's as there was a noticeable increase in bourse tables set up by dealers and collectors alike. Though sales were relatively moderate on opening day (Friday), they gathered steam on the second day

as more people, freed from office and household chores, flocked to the convention site to view the exhibits and trade various numismatic items. Foreign numismatists — among them **Bob Briggs** of Inglewood, California, **Carlos Castan** and **Blas Sanz** of Spain, **Jose Rio** of Mexico City, and **B. H. Lim** of Malaysia — were in attendance, presumably to take advantage of Philippine prices which are considered lower than those of foreign countries.

An auction sale offering approximately 300 lots was conducted in the afternoon on the second day of the convention. Scarce numismatic items such as the only extant 100-Piso Bangko Sentral note issued by the Puppet Republic during the Japanese Occupation, the Pope Paul VI Pres. Marcos Gold Coin of 1970, Philippine gold coins from 1861 to 1868, a Mexican 8-Reales cob of 1733, and an ar-



PNAS officers pose with foreign guests. From left are Pres. Antonio Bantug, Blas Sanz of Spain, Ben Carpio, Manuel P. Manahan, Bob Briggs of California, Carlos Castan of Spain, Nati Basso, Jose Rio of Mexico City, Angelita G. Legarda, Guy Davis, Aldo Basso and Maridel Brown.



Early viewers are being briefed by PNAS Pres. A. Bantug. Seen from left are: Mrs. A.B. Tan, Mrs. Sony Bantug, Mrs. Doris Nuyda, and Mrs. Bitong.

ray of Dos Mundos 8-Reales changed hands in the four-hour auction which grossed the biggest sale ever recorded in the history of the PNAS.

The three-day convention was climaxed by a fellowship dinner and awards ceremonies in the evening of November 23, which was opened with a welcome address by PNAS President *Antonio V. Bantug* with former Senator *Manuel P. Manahan* emceeing the affair. The keynote address was delivered by the guest of honor, Finance Secretary *Cesar E.A. Virata*, who spoke on the correlation of values of numismatic items to the current government effort on improved tax collections (page 10).

Exhibit winners received their prizes from *Mrs. Joy Virata*, assisted by Convention Chairman *Guy Davis*. For the first time in the history of Philippine numismatics, trophies and plaques were awarded to outstanding local numismatists,

with the presentation done by *Doña Blanca Figueroa Vda. de Opinion* — known in numismatic circles as the ageless Standing Lady of Philippine "coin-dom", for having been the model of her father, sculptor Melecio Figueroa, on the design of the U.S.-Philippine coins of 1903-45, and the Central Bank coins of 1958-66. (*Barrilla*, October 1975).

*Service Awards* in recognition of meritorious and dedicated service to the PNAS were given to *Conrado Ciriaco* and *Antonio Catu* as well as to other board members who have served continuously for five years. *Plaques of appreciation* were also awarded to *Aldo Basso* and *Guy Davis*.

*The Presidential Special Plaque*, given to a board member of the PNAS for exceptional and meritorious services to the Society, was awarded to *Mr. Manuel Manahan*, past president for six consecutive years.



Part of the crowd during the public auction.



Finance Secretary Cesar E.A. Virata delivers the keynote address. Seated at foreground are: Mrs. Joy Virata PNAS Pres. Antonio Bantug, and Doña Blanca Figueroa Vda. de Opinion -- otherwise known as the Standing Lady of Philippine "Coindom".



Numismatists and their guests at dinnertime.



Dr. Mena Crisologo, winner of the Gilbert Perez Award, receives his trophy from Doña Blanca Figueroa Vda. de Opinion. At left is PNAS President Antonio Bantug. In the background may be seen Mrs. Joy Virata.

The Gilbert Perez Award - - named in honor of the foremost numismatist who wrote extensively on Philippine numismatics, and given to any deserving individual of outstanding literary achievement contributing to the development and promotion of Philippine numismatics - - was awarded to Dr. Mena Crisologo whose numerous numismatic articles, mostly on counterstamped coins, have been published in the *Barrilla* (quarterly publication of the CB Money Museum), the *Numismatist* (monthly publication of the American Numismatic Association), and

the PNAS *Monographs*.

The Jose P. Bantug Award - - the highest award in Philippine numismatics named in honor of the first PNAS president and given to any Filipino for outstanding achievement contributing to the development of numismatics in the Philippines - - was awarded to Dr. Angelita G. Legarda for her role towards the establishment of the CB Money Museum, and as its consultant, acting curator and executive editor of its quarterly publication, *Barrilla*.



Dr. Benito J. Legarda takes a breather from his chores as CB Deputy Governor and BARRILLA editor to receive from Mrs. Virata his second prize award in the "U.S. & World Coins" competitive exhibit.



Ben Carpio receives from Mrs. Joy Virata his first prize trophy for his entry in the Philippine Coin category. In the middle is Convention Chairman Guy Davis.



Mrs. Joy Virata congratulates Mr. Felipe Yu Liao for bagging the grand award in the Paper Money & Banknotes competitive exhibit.

The results of the competitive exhibit follow hereunder:

*Category 1 - Philippine Coins*, Aldo Basso trophy.

1st prize - Ben Carpio - "Piloncitos"

2nd prize - Augusto Diaz - "Errors in Philippine Coins"

3rd prize - Richard Lopez - "The Forgotten Series"

*Category 2 - Medals & Tokens*, Franklin Mint trophy.

1st prize - Angelita G. Legarda - "Medals and the Arts"

2nd prize - Leandro Bantug - "Philippine Medals & Amulets"

*Category 3 - U.S. & World Coins*, Paramount International Coin Corporation trophy.

1st prize Angelita G. Legarda - "The Coinage of Israel"

2nd prize - Benito J. Legarda - "Numismatics: A Gathering of Wisdoms"

3rd prize - Rustico Vitug - "Collecting World Coins"

*Category 4 - Paper Money & Banknotes*, World Coin Corporation trophy.

1st prize - Felipe Yu Liao - "BEF & BPI Notes"

2nd prize - Guy Davis - "Cagayan Guerilla Currency"

3rd prize - Felipe Yu Liao - "Paper Money Errors"

*Category 5 - Junior Exhibits*

1st prize - Richard Shusterman - "U.S. Coins"

2nd prize - Robert Robison - "Is This Progress?"

3rd prize - Peter Shusterman - "Philippine Heroes on Coins"

By arrangement with the owners, some of the prize-winning entries are now featured as a special display at the CB Money Museum.

This year's convention, handled by a committee headed by *Guy Davis* and *Andrew Drzyk*, has made unprecedented strides which augur well for the future of Philippine numismatics. When the PNAS was founded almost half a century ago, the pioneering members may have been doubtful of its continued existence -- numismatics being then a little-known science in the Islands. This fear was later compounded with the loss of valuable collections during World War II, but like the fabled Phoenix, they reappeared from the ashes and rubble of the war as beautiful though not as numerous as before,

which was evidenced from the excellent exhibits at the recent convention.

Little did the founding fathers of the PNAS know that from a handful of members who met over a small table trading coins for a mere trifle, the Society would metamorphose into one of the largest in Asia. The establishment of the CB Money Museum involving leading members of the PNAS, the successful holding of the national convention and the developing awareness of the people, particularly the youth, of numismatics are the culmination of the pioneering efforts of those founders headed by Jose Bantug and Gilbert Perez, whose names are now enshrined in the Hall of Fame of Philippine numismatics and in whose memory are dedicated the highest annual awards given to outstanding numismatists. □



Obv.



Rev.

Medal commemorating the 2nd National Numismatic Convention. Obverse shows the Standing Lady of Philippine coindom in her original pose which appeared on Philippine coins from 1903-1966. Reverse shows the seal of the PNAS as designed by the late Gilbert Perez.

## PAST AND CURRENT PESOS

( Excerpts From Secretary of Finance Cesar Virata's Address To The Second National Numismatic Convention Sponsored By The Philippine Numismatic and Antiquarian Society at the Intercontinental Hotel, Makati, Rizal On November 23, 1975. )



Finance Secretary Cesar E.A. Virata delivers the keynote address at the awards night. At foreground from left are: Ex-Senator Manuel P. Manhan, Mrs. Joy Virata, PNAS Pres. Antonio Bantug, Doña Blanca Figueroa Vda. de Opinion, Ben Carpio, Don Felipe Hidalgo (one of the two surviving founders of the PNAS), Dr. Pablo de Jesus, and Carlos Castan.

Excellencies, Distinguished guests, Honorees, Prize winners:

Admittedly, this is my first time to address a gathering of coin collectors or, to be technical about it, a group of numismatists. However, in connection with my official duties, I deal with collectors also and I am referring to tax collectors, specifically internal revenue and customs collectors. Actually, what makes one collector different from the other is just a matter of time. While the collectors I officially deal with are particularly concerned with "current" pesos, your group of collectors take particular delight in collecting "past" or "ancient" pesos. Nevertheless, we could still point to a common ground where the act of collecting is done not for its own sake but for an objective several steps further. Tax collectors have to do their duty to finance vital projects of the government, while I would like to believe that numismatists collect old coins not simply for the sake of pecuniary gain but more in appreciation of their historical and cultural value.

The economic and historical value of coin collection may be gleaned by tracing the evolution of money - its transformation from shells, pieces of metal and stones to our modern coins. In so doing, the numismatist may evaluate coins as to their content, portability or artistic design, the economic reason for the existence of coins or money as a medium of exchange not being their sole concern.

Similarly, we can say of the task of tax collection that taxes are not collected for the sheer pleasure of separating a man from his money. I will not talk much on the amount of taxes we have collected or where these have been spent. It seems that no amount of taxes is ever adequate when viewed against the magnitude of government projects and services to be funded. Therefore, I will deal with the not-so-quantitative aspect of taxes, what are the medium and forms of tax collecting; what compose our taxes or what is the tax structure obtaining in the country.

In summary . . . . the evolution of the Philippine tax structure during the 25 year period up to 1974 was characterized by a gradual, slow but continuing structural shift favoring direct taxes vis-a-vis indirect taxes. This development is consistent with both the steady growth in real gross national product during the period

and the government's policy of relying more on progressive taxation to finance its various socio-economic programs and projects.

It should be noted, moreover, that taxes on international trade and transactions continue to play a significant role in indirect tax receipts. This is firstly the consequence of the open character of the Philippine economy - - its heavy reliance on external trade, especially during the 1970, as a stimulus for growth. Additionally, it reflects equity considerations, viz, the institution of export taxes during the height of the commodity boom, which incidentally benefited the government's coffers at a time when policy direction pointed towards the acceleration of development expenditure.

Thus, in closing, I would like to say that to a certain extent, "ancient" pesos derive an increasing value for some people precisely because the collectors of "current" pesos have made possible improvements in current life that leave room for pursuing the aesthetic and the pleasurable . . . for the enjoyment of the cultural aspect as opposed to the mundane task of making today a step ahead of yesterday. In so doing, the tax collectors of today may be said to have contributed to the pleasures of tomorrow's coin collectors. □

The person who starts to collect and study what he obtains never has any time that he cannot occupy usefully. When arranging his treasures cataloguing and studying them, time flies, his mind is actively employed, excluding the worries or incidents of his vocation, vitalizing his brain by exercising it on different subjects, for "variety is the spice of life."

— D. C. Wismer, "Why Collect?"  
The Numismatist, November 1925  
page 573.

# LAPULAPU

by

Mariano N. Querol



Mr. Querol was one of the most popular columnists of the former *Manila Times*, and managing editor of the *Philippines Herald*. At one time he was a professorial lecturer in journalism and public relations at the Lyceum of the Philippines. His book *Land Reform in Asia*, which was published by La Solidaridad Publishing House in 1974, is now being used by the Department of Agrarian Reform as a reference for its land reform programs. He has an avid interest in history, was a war veteran, and his hobby is ichthyology.

Ferdinand Magellan limped to a high rise and looked hard beyond the water. From the growing seaport of Zugbu – which in 400 years would become Cebu City – he saw the small island of Mactan loom large across the strait. At some points Mactan was separated from Zugbu by no more than a half kilometer of sea.

So this was where the first signs of resistance were coming from. Magellan knew he must deal with resistance quickly. He must confront the insolent petty chieftain who ruled half this island and cut him down to size. There was no other way.

He turned to Humabon. This man, he said. What was his name?

Humabon got the question through the interpreter. He faced Magellan and smiled uncertainly. Lapulapu, he said.

Lapulapu was at the moment on Mactan, watching events. He was tall, strong-boned and well-muscled, his rugged good looks enhanced by skin the color of a ripe coconut. This was Lapulapu as he came down to us from legend. Was he thinking of ways to break a likely Spanish attack? It would seem so. He had chal-

lenged Magellan. A showdown could therefore be counted on. The odds – heavy with artillery and muskets – were on the side of the Spaniard.

Humabon pointed at a strip of shore guarded by coral reefs. Breakers were lapping with white foam against it. A narrow band of beach rose up from the sea to join a thick line of coconut trees. On the beach lay dug-out canoes and fishing nets spread out in the sun to dry. Under the trees clustered a village of thatch houses. From this bit of green and brown coast, Humabon said, Lapulapu's domain began.

Magellan had to pick up the challenge. Trained as a boy in the Portuguese royal court, he knew his politics. He had claimed the whole of what was to become the Philippine archipelago as the possession of his Most Catholic Majesty Carlos I, king of all the Spains and caesar augustus of the Holy Roman Empire. It was essential that he be obeyed as the enforcer of the king's law. Once he tolerated insubordination, he would be challenged everywhere. That was no way to begin a conquest.

Obviously he was planning to govern through Humabon. The choice was shrewd. Humabon, ruler of Zugbu, commanded the allegiance of eight *datus*, village prince-lings, and 2,000 lancers, a considerable force in those days. He bore the Hindu title of *rajab*, king. If Magellan ruled through Humabon, he would get two things. First, a powerful vassal. Second, a simple administrative system, for then he would not have to deal with the numerous *datus* on Zugbu and outlying islands. Forthwith his first order came down: Humabon was to be recognized as the overlord and the *datus* should kiss his hand (after European custom) as a token of fealty.

The other chief on Mactan, Zula, quickly obeyed. Lapulapu's reply had the ring of contempt: Humabon was not acceptable as the lord paramount.

Magellan must certainly have foreseen this. He was too experienced a commander to have overlooked the realities of his enterprise. A conqueror's job, he knew, was no picnic.

He had left the Spanish port of San Lucar de Barrameda, off the mouth of the river Guadalquivir, on September 20, 1519, with five warships -- Trinidad, San Antonio, Concepcion, Victoria and Santiago -- and a commission from Carlos I to find a new route to the Moluccas, richest of the fabled Spice Islands. Europe needed spices. Other goods from Asia -- tea, sugar, silk, perfumes -- were much prized in European trade. Supplies to Europe had been cut off since over a hundred years before when the Osman Turks overran the Middle East and closed it to European commerce. That was why new trade routes had to be found.

Magellan was 39 when he took command at San Lucar. A Portuguese, he had renounced his citizenship to become a Spanish subject. Compared to most of his captains, he looked short and undis-



Ferdinand Magellan

tinguished. A full beard began from thick sideburns, framing his flashing eyes. On his jacket shone the badge of a Spanish captain-general. As he limped to board his flagship Trinidad, few found reason to laugh. The limp told the story of an extraordinary fighting man.

As a teenager he began as a page to the Portuguese queen in Lisbon. The job had a considerable fringe benefit: training in seamanship and military science. At 25, he fought his first battle as a sublieutenant in a Portuguese fleet attempting to slice off India. In 1511, by then a captain with a reputation for unusual bravery and endurance, he participated in the Portuguese conquest of Malacca, on what is now the Malaysian peninsula. Two years later, in the Portuguese expedition to Morocco, a Moorish lance dug deep into his left knee.

From all this he gained fame as a leader of men. He also acquired a Sumatran slave whom he named Enrique. But he craved much more. He craved for financial security, and the ungrateful Portuguese king would not even give him a

decent pension. In disgust he left Lisbon for the Spanish capital of Valladolid. He was lucky. Carlos I bought his idea of locating a new route to the Spice Islands. An expedition was outfitted, with the king providing the financing. For his trouble, Magellan could end up a very rich man — his contract provided that he would become governor of all territory he could conquer for Spain and part of all income from it.

To Magellan's quarters on Trinidad two men had special access. One was the Sumatran Enrique. The other was an Italian chronicler named Antonio de Pigafetta. Enrique was to be Magellan's interpreter when he reached the Moluccas, which should lie east of Sumatra. Pigafetta was to chronicle the voyage — his passport to fame, it developed, for his account would cover the first circumnavigation of the globe.

The sails were fat with a fair wind as the fleet pulled out of San Lucar. Magellan messaged his captains: Follow me. Trinidad sailed due southwest to the Canaries, then plowed south to the lower latitudes and hugged the African coast as far south as Guinea. From there the two-masted ship turned due southwest again, debouching into the Atlantic. In about 50 days the fleet was off Brazil. Magellan pushed south past Rio de Janeiro and the Rio de la Plata, looking for a westward passage to the Moluccas. A series of storms drove him south to Port San Julian on the Argentine coast where he survived bitter weather and a mutiny. His smallest vessel, Santiago, exploring below San Julian, ran into a heavy squall and got wrecked. With only four ships now, Magellan pushed farther south, then turned due west. One ship, San Antonio, deserted as he went through a beautiful passage now called the Strait of Magellan. Then he saw

a vast stretch of peaceful, unmapped water. He could think of only one word. "Pacífico", he said, thus christening the ocean, and the Pacific Ocean it remains to this day.

It proved to be the most difficult part of the voyage. In the course of the long crossing — three months and 20 days — provisions ran out. The crew had to subsist on what could be found aboard — stale water, sawdusts, rats, leather, biscuits crawling with worms. Nineteen men died and 30 others went down with scurvy. Sailing on hope and guts, Magellan was happy to reach an island called Guam, where he loaded up with fresh water and eatables. A week later he saw a land mass veiled in mist off the starboard side. It was Samar, a major island in what was to become the Philippine group. It had been 18 months — nearly two years — since he left San Lucar.

He landed on Homonhon for more provisions, then sailed south along the Leyte coast. Off that island's southern tip, he turned due west into inland waters toward Limasawa, a dot on the sea. There he spent Holy Week. On Easter Sunday after Mass, before his assembled men and local people, he planted a huge wooden cross on top of a hill. Then he made his proclamation: These islands belonged to the Spanish king, and they were to be known as the Archipelago of St. Lazarus, for he reached them on the sabbath of that saint, March 16, 1521.

Magellan apparently first heard of Zugbu from Kolambu, the Limasawan chief. He was in a hurry to get there. As Kolambu may have put it, Zugbu was a trading post and metropolis of sorts, and indeed it was drawing ships from China, Thailand, Sulu and the Moluccas. Kolambu offered to take the fleet to Zugbu

after the rice harvest. Magellan ordered his men to help out, and in two days the crop was gathered. With Kolambo guiding the helmsman on Trinidad, the fleet sailed due northwest off Bohol's northern coast, traced the northern shore of an island called Mactan and – on April 7, 1921 – entered a narrow channel. A large seaside town hove into view. Kolambo pointed a finger at it. Zugbu, he said.

Magellan made a grand entrance. "On approaching the city," wrote Pigafetta, "the captain-general ordered the ships to fling their fanners. The sails were lowered as if for battle, and all the artillery was fired, an action which caused great fear among those people."

Humabon was talking with a trader from Thailand when Magellan's emissaries arrived. The captain of the greatest king on earth, he was told, had come to call and buy his wares. Good, replied Humabon – the captain could enjoy the privileges of the port provided he paid the customary taxes. Magellan would hear nothing of this. The Thaialander warned Humabon not to press the issue – he knew Europeans he said, and they were terrible fighters. Apparently impressed by Magellan's artillery, Humabon backed down.

Enrique interpreted for Magellan's representative. He and Humabon understood each other quite well. Was Malay, wafted out of Java and Sumatra by the winds of the faded Sri-Visayan and Majapahit empires, the *lingua franca* in this part of the world?

The upshot was that Humabon and Magellan had a *kasikasi*, blood compact. A few drops of blood were drawn from the left arm and mixed in a cup of wine. The two drank from the same cup. This,

according to custom, made them blood brothers.

Humabon opened his house to the visitor. There was much feasting. An orchestra came with horns, flutes, violins, guitars and drums. Pretty girls sang and danced. As Magellan looked about him, did Zugbu, with its houses on stilts, remind him of Malacca, which he helped conquer for the Portuguese? What he saw in Zugbu was recorded by Pigafetta:

"Their houses are constructed of wood and built of planks and bamboo, raised high from the ground on large logs, one must enter them by means of ladders. They have rooms like ours; and under the house they keep their swine, goats and fowl.

(These people) live in accordance with justice . . . They love peace, ease and quiet."

They also knew something of commerce, doing business on a system of weights and measures, and were quite fond of jewelry.

"(The) girls are very beautiful and almost as white as our girls and as large . . . They have long black hair, and wear a short cloth about the head, and are always barefoot."

"The queen was young and beautiful, and was entirely covered with a white and black cloth. Her mouth and nails were very red, while on her head she wore a large hat of palm leaves in the manner of a parasol, with a crown about it of the same leaves, like the tiara of the Pope; and she never goes any place without such a one."

A top item on Magellan's agenda, in keeping with instructions from the Spanish king, was to sell Christianity. One week after his arrival in Zugbu, he was pleased to see Humabon baptized and

named Carlos, after his sovereign. The queen was named Juana, after the king's mother. Humabon's daughter was named Catalina. Altogether about 800 were baptized.

Magellan must have sized up the military situation about this time. After all, he did come to conquer. The Portuguese campaigns in India, Malacca and Morocco, in which he participated as a young officer, began with assessments of strength. Did he have the strength to overcome local resistance? There is no doubt that he thought he did. His force of musketeers and crossbowmen was tiny, but his immense firepower — artillery and muskets — could make short work of native fighting men using lance or cutlass in corselets of hide behind wooden bucklers. Furthermore, the people were split into small principalities without any sense of nation and without the rallying point inspired by a central monarchy. They could be conquered one by one so long as they remained divided.

Magellan then made his first order: Humabon was to be recognized as the

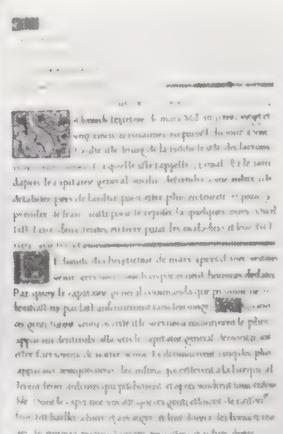
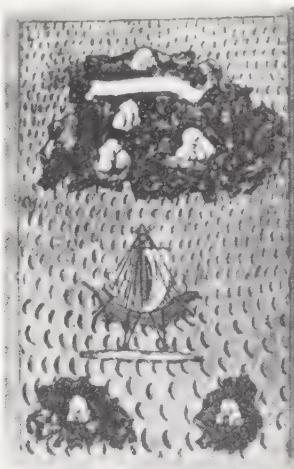
overlord. Reaction was good but it could have been better. There was one dissenter Lapulapu.

So we see Magellan looking at Mactan, face to face with his first test of strength in an archipelago he wished to govern. His decision came quickly. He sent for one of his captains. Send a party out to the village, he said, pointing at a cluster of houses across the strait. Burn it.

A pillar of smoke rose up from the island.

Lapulapu reacted indirectly. A boat was seen speeding in full sail from Mactan to Zugbu. Aboard was a son of Zula with a gift of two goats and a message to Humabon. Lapulapu is moving against us, it said, Send help quickly.

It looked like a local war, but Magellan took it for what it was — a challenge to his power. When Zula complied with his order, did he not in effect put his safety in Spanish hands? If Spanish protection were denied Zula, who then would rely on the word of the Spaniard? Magellan turned to Humabon. I'll handle this myself he said. Step aside and watch us fight.



An illustration from Pigafetta's Relation, showing the Islas de los Ladrones, "islands of thieves". This name was given to the Marianas by Magellan because, although not unfriendly, the inhabitants stole anything they could from the Spanish.

His plan was simple. He would land on Mactan and establish a bridgehead. Backed by artillery, his foot troops would fan out and overpower the Mactan force. That would finish Lapulapu.

At midnight Magellan pulled out of Zugbu on three boats with a force of 60 musketeers and crossbowmen. On each boat was a mortar — high-angle cannon — and a good supply of balls and powder. Each of the men, like Magellan, was armored in breastplates and helmets of steel.

Humabon and 1,000 lancers also pulled out on 30 boats. His instructions were explicit: Don't fight. Just watch.

All we know of the battle of Mactan is Magellan's side of it, thanks to Pigafetta's account, but Pigafetta also gives clear indications of how Lapulapu conducted his end of the fight. Anyone familiar with military history and tactics can reconstruct the two sides of the story.

April 27, 1521. Three hours before dawn. We see Lapulapu at his command post on the beach, almost certainly on a high rise where he can watch every major turn in the fighting that is to come. A pool of couriers is at hand. His chest is sheathed in a corselet of leather. From a shoulder hangs a wooden shield. In his hands is not the cutlass — as the Europeans called the bolo — but his favorite weapon, a wooden pestle.

A lookout shows up and makes obeisance. They are here now, Beloved Datu, he says. How many are they? Three boatloads on our immediate front, Beloved Datu, and many others farther offshore. Good, says Lapulapu. He turns to a courier. Go tell the commanders, he says, to position their men as they have been told. The courier speeds off. The mass of men on the beach forms into a line of three companies, lancers out front, bowmen in rear. The line looks like a bow

-- center on dry beach, wings curving out into shallow water.

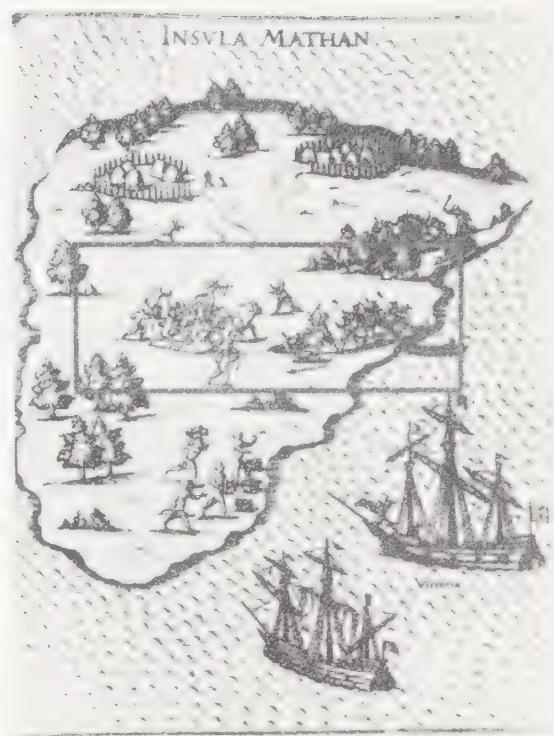
Magellan is indeed offshore. He decides to give Lapulapu a second chance. A messenger seeks out the datu and is given leave to speak. These are the words of Magellan, says the messenger: I offer friendship provided Lapulapu recognizes Humabon and pays tribute to the Spanish king. Lapulapu smiles. Go tell Magellan, he says, Lapulapu submits and pays tribute to no king. He adds quickly: Tell him *not* to attack but to wait for morning.

The words sound innocent. Actually they are meant to confuse. While speaking out against the king, Lapulapu asks for grace. This, a sign of weakness, is meant to raise Magellan's confidence and induce him to attack *now*. Lapulapu is prepared to take advantage of darkness. Willy-nilly he has drawn the Spaniard into a battlefield he himself has chosen. The water is deep but spiked with coral reefs — the Spanish boats cannot come in an unload cannon. To attack, Magellan must wade through thigh-deep water — he will be tired before the first blow is struck. Once he makes it to the shore, most of his men will fall into pitholes which Lapulapu's braves have dug to block his line of advance — they can be finished quickly with the spear. Though Lapulapu has never had any formal schooling in military tactics, he understands that war is deception.

Magellan reads Lapulapu's mind correctly. He attacks in the morning, opening up with artillery fire from his boats and wading a long distance — "more than two crossbow flights" — to reach dry land and the Mactan line. Pigafetta, standing by Magellan, sees 1,500 Mactan braves on the beach, deployed in three companies. (An obvious exaggeration. If an overlord like Humabon could summon only 2,000 lancers, how could a petty princeling of

half a small island assemble 1,500? ) Emplaced on boats hanging on reefs too far away, Magellan's artillery sputters to a stop, unable to give the Spanish column supporting fire. Though glinting with steel, the advancing Spanish mass, lacking the protection of artillery cover, looks naked in the morning light.

From his command post, Lapulapu sees that he outnumbers his enemy. He discovers that legs get no protection from Spanish armor. He wonders why the men on the other boats have not formed for combat, but decides to worry about that later. He gives an order. The Mactan line regroups, shifting strength from center to wings. The word is passed on: hit below the waist. Finally the Spanish column comes within meters of the shore and within Mactan range. Lapulapu gives the signal. The wings of the Mactan line come alive with battlecries and close with a rain of arrows on the Spanish force.



The death of Magellan. This map shows Mactan, two of Magellan's ships, islanders offering gifts, and the fight in which Magellan was killed.



Detail of the fight between Magellan's crew and the Mactan people.



1 - ₧ coin featuring the profile of Lapulapu. Issued from 1967 to 1974.

Magellan regroups his men into two companies the better to meet Lapulapu's attack on both Spanish flanks. His musketeers and crossbowmen shift quickly from slow to rapid fire, but the missiles are stopped by Mactan shields. After half an hour of shooting, it is obvious to both commanders that Spanish marksmanship is ineffective. Magellan calls for a ceasefire, obviously intending to regroup for better shooting, but no one hears the order. Lapulapu orders his wings to close in for hand-to-hand combat. The line ripples forward. Mactan lances, aimed at the legs, are now hurled at close range.

Lapulapu's numerical superiority is pressing on Magellan. The Spaniard now realizes he lacks firepower to make up for his lack of numbers. He decides he needs a diversion. He forms a party of scouts and orders it to go round the Mactan flank and burn the village. His hopes are clearly on this maneuver. If it works, he can shoot holes in a disorganized Mactan line and save the day. As the Spaniards stand up to the Mactan attack, clouds of smoke rise up from the trees. Magellan's infiltrators have accomplished their mission. But the trick fails. Lapulapu has foreseen it. Though their homes are burning, there is no rush among the braves to fall out of

line and put out the flames. They stay in formation, fighting more fiercely than before.

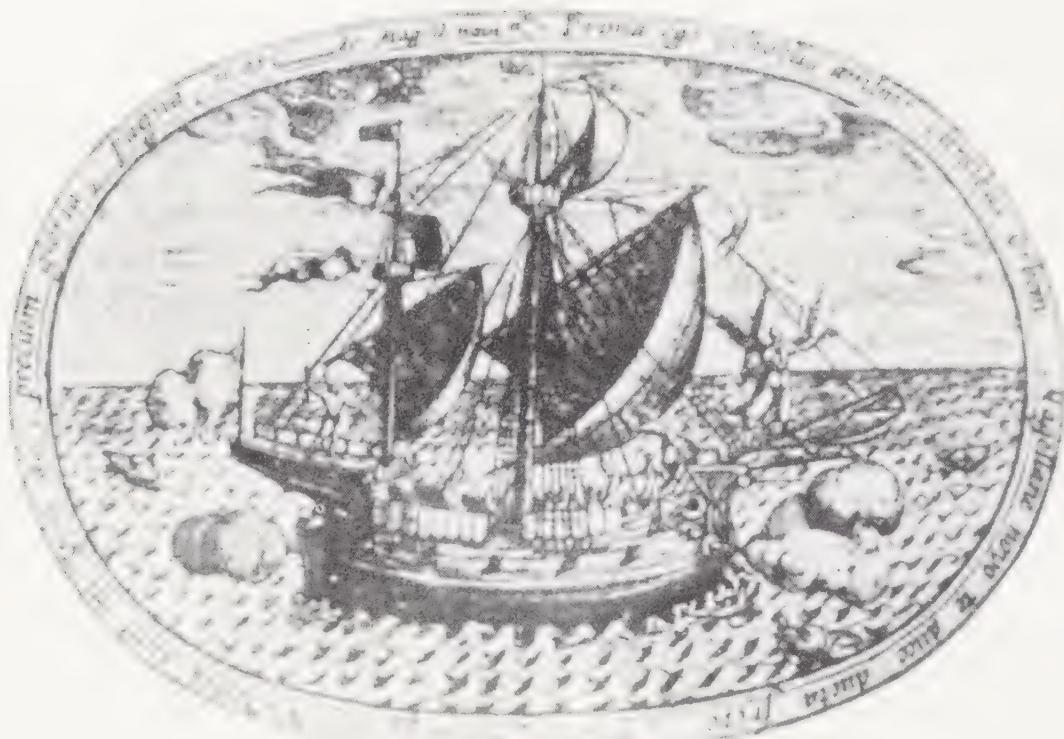
Magellan sees now that his position has become untenable. A poisoned arrow hits him on the right leg. Reluctantly he orders a retreat. Back to the boats, he cries — retire slowly! But his men have become a rabble — the battle has become a rout — and they are in full flight. Only eight men, including Pigafetta, stay with Magellan in a slow retreat, fighting in knee-deep water as they try to make it back to the boats. The battle continues for an hour longer though the issue has been settled. It is hand-to-hand now.



The new 1 - ₧ coin issued in 1975 featuring Lapulapu. This is the only square coin in Philippine numismatic history.

Magellan, recognized at last as the Spanish commander, draws the attack of a squad of Mactan spearmen. His helmet is knocked off his head twice. A Mactan lancer hurls a bamboo spear into his face, but he parries the blow and buries his own lance in the man's body. With nothing now in his hands, he reaches for his sword but can draw it only halfway. A brave catches him on the left leg with a cutlass. Magellan falls face down into the water. A thrust with a lance finishes him.

Thus was killed, wrote Pigafetta, "our light, our comfort and true guide."



The Victoria, the only survivor of the five vessels which sailed under Magellan in 1519. Only 17 men were on board the sorry-looking ship which returned to Spain three years later, but the information that they brought back from the journey was of unaccountable value to world history.

Mactan was no battle on the grand scale. In military history, it is the merest footnote. Yet it does teach us one thing: The Philippines of Magellan's day had a captain. Judged from the way the battle was fought — the selection of the field, preparations to reduce the effectiveness of the enemy's firepower, coming up "fustest with the mostest" — the generalship of the Mactan chieftain was superior to the European's.

Humabon offered to ransom Magellan's body, but Lapulapu would not give it up — "we intend to keep him as a memorial." Where Magellan was buried — if he was buried — we do not know. An obelisk now stands where he fought -- the Filipino tribute to one of the greatest explorers known to history.

But the Filipinos also take care of their own. Outside of the battle of Mactan, they know nothing of the iron-willed datu. Lapulapu had no Pigafetta to record his deeds. He came upon history like a shooting star, suddenly flowering in an explosion of light and as suddenly fading into the void. But his victory over a foreign conqueror is accomplishment enough. So we see him given high honor. A one-centavo piece coined by the Central Bank carries his profile. A city has grown where the battle was fought — it is called Lapulapu City.

He stands in his city, a man of bronze armored for combat, in his hands a pestle. There is a message in his eyes. Dignity, he seems to say, can only come from courage.

## MANUEL P. MANAHAN

by

Doris G. Nuyda

**T**here is something about numismatics that seems to attract people as interesting as itself. As a pastime, it calls for scholarship, a love for history and much patience, qualities that more frivolous natures would be hard put to acquire. So that in the roster of coin collectors, one is likely to find well-known personalities in the professions, sometimes national figures who have served in key positions in either the government or private sector.

Exemplifying the numismatist in this sense is Manuel P. Manahan, a former Senator (1961-65); journalist and publisher of underground newspapers during the dangerous years of the Japanese occupation; immediate past president of the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society (PNAS); and currently, general manager of Tabacalera Insurance Co., Inc.

The PNAS has long recognized and availed of his leadership. As a matter of fact, after a few years in other official capacities, he was elected to the presidency, a position he held for six consecutive terms (six years), an unprecedented record in the Society's history.

His collection, he says, is confined to coins that have circulated in the Philippines. His principal collection, therefore, is based on an historical presentation which traces the country's history from a *piloncito* supposed to have been brought here by Sri-Vijayan traders, right up to coins



of more recent mintage.

A generous part of the collection is made up of medals, both the commemorative and award kinds, which provide further insight into the period of time it appeared like so many "footnotes" to history.

Apart from the *piloncito*, another of Sen. Manahan's prize acquisitions is a coin of Alexander the Great, engraved with the face of that conquering general. According to Sen. Manahan, it was found in Jolo along with others which anthropologist Otley Beyer records as among the earliest coins found in the Philippines. These early coins are believed to have circulated at the time of the first contacts of Arab traders and Filipinos.

The collection, following a chronological sequence, moves on to Chinese currency showing the early trade traffic between the Chinese and Filipinos. There are, for instance, an 1088 A.D. Sung copper, another of the same dynasty marked 1207 A.D., and an early Ming.

From the Kingdom of Sulu, he has a copper coin curiously inscribed 1147 A.H.

The Spanish period in his collection begins with coins of Ferdinand and Isabela, Carlos and Juana la Loca, also a Felipe II that circulated here via Peru.

Probably the oldest *barrilla* next to Gilbert Perez' first find is in his collection. Like his colleagues in the PNAS, he finds this copper coin controversial but more interesting because of it.

The Manahan *barrilla* (if we may call it that) was acquired through a friend who in turn had acquired it when the Pasig river was dredged twenty years ago.

It was the Senator's daughter (one of 10 children) who then had a coin collection, so he gave it to her. Years later, learning that this was no ordinary coin and that, in fact, it belonged to the first batch minted in the Philippines, he quickly retrieved it from his daughter's collection and put it in his own.

British, Dutch and Japanese coins also have their stories to tell in his collection (mostly of belligerence in the case of the British and Dutch). The Japanese coins, however, reveal that the Japanese even in the Spanish colonial era, already wielded a strong influence in these shores. The coins were rectangular gold pieces brought over by the Japanese communities that had settled in Manila and Aparri.

Latin American coins are particularly interesting because their countries of origin have histories similar to our own. There are those over stamped with 'Manila', not only to denote that they were then in use in the Philippines, but to obliterate the libertarian mottoes inscribed on them. Spain's South American colonies were then up in arms against the 'mother country' and Spanish officials in Manila must have feared that the mottoes would inspire similar activity here. Thus the start of the countermarks with F. 7° (Ferdinand VII) and Y. II (Isabela II).

The Isabela coins show five different impressions of this Spanish queen, each struck at different years and showing her looking younger as she grew older. Was it

the queen's vanity that caused this or were the later coins meant merely to correct the bad engraving of the first? Alas, this too has no answer.

Sen. Manahan's collection of Isabelitas is quite complete, from the one-peso denomination to the P2 and P4. These, according to the Senator, were struck from 1861 to 1868, but the 1867-P4 seems to be an elusive coin today; only two are in existence here, one of which is, of course, in his collection.

There is a Carlos III coin in the collection that is significant in more ways than one. He found it, says the Senator, during his years in Congress when it seemed to him all he did was fight windmills. His eye-opening reports on the dissident situation in Central Luzon, for instance, were all but disregarded. But, in the course of making those reports, he came across a Carlos III coin as reported by a Spanish historian, Basco Ibanez, who, he found out, was a man after his own heart. He too had written a treatise about the Arayat situation that 'foretold' his own report by 200 years.

Roused by renewed interest in things historical, Sen. Manahan began to take up coin collecting with greater interest, and this has not left him since.

The revolutionary period is well-represented in his collection with a complete coverage of the revolution's three phases.

Turn-of-the-century coins mark the American entry into Philippine affairs, and from here on Philippine history as told by the coins, takes on the aspect of current events. It is interesting to note, however, that the early American coins still bear inscriptions in Spanish. But this was perhaps in deference to the still-pre-dominant Spanish-speaking population at that time.



PNAS ex-President Manny Manahan emcees at banquet during 2nd PNAS annual numismatic convention.

Occupying positions of equal importance in the collection are the medals. One finds that the medals provide additional information about certain events in history, like spice to the pudding.

There is in the Isabela period, for instance, a medal commemorating the inauguration of a Canal de Isabela. There are no traces of that canal today, but if it still exists, says Sen. Manahan, a hint of amusement in his voice, it must be nothing more now than an *estero*.

This particular medal, however, seems to have had more than one reason for being: its design was the same one used on the Isabelitas or *oncitas* of the 1860's.

The Spanish victory over the "Moros" of Mindanao around this period also warranted medals. Not one, not two — but five, so great did the Spanish deem their victory. Aside from the commemorative medals, therefore, there were extra ones struck to award wives, sweethearts — and

even mistresses — of the brave Castillian soldiers who fell into the kris.

In the Katipunan section of the collection, one medal is held in special regard — and this is the one awarded to Gen. Fernando Canon who distinguished himself in line of duty, and was besides a man of high culture and a friend of Rizal. Gen. Canon happens to be a grand uncle of Sen. Manahan.

But the most special medal of all is not in the collection at all. This is a Legion of Honor medal in recognition of outstanding service during the war, specifically for help in the publication of underground newspapers *Free Philippines* and *The Liberator*, and for participation in guerrilla activities after undergoing the horrors of imprisonment in Fort Santiago. The name of the awardee is Manuel P. Manahan, who is content to leave medal and citation in a frame hanging on a bedroom wall.

Sen. Manahan is married to the former Consuelo Laguardia. □

# Newly Discovered Varieties B.E.F.-B.P.I. Notes-A Reply

by  
Neil Shafer

**I**t is a distinct pleasure to address this article to the fine work done by Dr. Benito Legarda, Jr. which was published in the October 1975 *Barrilla*. In that article there were discussed a number of things, some of which I do believe constitute major, and previously in-edited variants, others which I do not feel merit the same attribution. Let us take them in the order presented, and discuss each in turn.

### THE JULIAN SERRANO NOTES

Without question these are important and fully acceptable variants. Before Dr. Legarda informed me of their existence (at the ANA Convention in Los Angeles), I had never heard of them. I fully agree with his extrapolation of the probable amounts made. As to numbering, I would like to suggest a counter-proposal which follows the procedures we (at Whitman or Western) have set up for the inclusion of major varieties as they are located in coinage. We take the basic catalog number, in this case No. 149, and give it an "a" number to tie it in closely with the parent number. So the newly discovered variant would seem to merit the number of 149a under our system. But no — this is not quite right in this instance. Dr. Legarda has in fact discovered what should have been No. 149, as it came *before* the notes with the "J. Serrano" name only. We should thus call the "Julian Serrano" notes No. 149, and the much more common "J. Serrano" variant No. 149a.



The author

(To use a capital letter A in front of a number signifies a completely different or new *type* of issue, rather than just a major or relatively minor variety of the same basic issue. For example, in the Revenue Stamp notes of Cagayan, the 4 Peso denomination which was unknown to me at the time of publication of the guerrilla currency book will have the catalog number of All8; the 2.50 Pesos is already No. 117 and the 5 Pesos is No. 118. Since the 4 Pesos is a new type because of its donomination it *must* take an "A" letter before the number.)

The first paragraph refers, of course, to the 10 Pesos of 1908. The same remarks hold true for the 20 Pesos with regard to which stamping came before which, and the numbering sequence which must then be altered to accommodate this new information. In summary, I propose the following: No. 149, 10 Pesos B.E.F. 1908, with stamped signature of Julian Serrano; No. 149a, as above but with J. Serrano stamped signature. No. 155, 20 Pesos B.E.F. 1908 with stamped signature of Julian Serrano; No. 155a as above but with stamped signature of J. Serrano. I concur with the rarity ratings as suggested in Dr. Legarda's October article. I might add that I have seen the 5-Peso notes with serial numbers under 1000, and all had the J. Serrano signature.

#### OFF-CENTER RAYS, G-H 1912 P5

On page 194 of the October *Barrilla* Dr. Legarda clearly states what has happened to create a noticeable pattern to the underprint position — a "systematic error amounting to a variant". Except that in this case I do not think that the notes are significant enough to justify their inclusion as variants with a separate catalog number. While this kind of eyeball difference is interesting, and helps to explain how the notes were printed and finished (obviously there were several different processes the notes went through), it does not appear to me to have enough weight behind it numismatically in order to separate and classify. I would leave No. 144 as it is.

#### COLOR VARIANT 1912 G-H P10

From examination of similar notes which show the difference in background color as described in the article, I concur with Dr. Legarda's observance. Suggested numbering would be as follows: No. 150, 10 Pesos 1912, G-H signatures, orange-pink background rays; No. 150a, 10 Pesos

1912, G-H signatures, pale yellow background rays. Rarity remains the same.

#### COLOR VARIANT 1912 G-H P20

Examination of the notes in question leave no doubt that there is a variant. My only comment is that possibly this variant has come about more because the notes were in storage for a long time rather than as a direct result of a change in printing ink. In other issues (not Philippine) I have seen changes in the appearance of notes which was directly a result of being pressed together for an extended period. This could have happened with this issue, No. 156, as World War I was in full progress during some of the printing and issuing of this note, and it is well known that the Bureau of Engraving was having difficulty in obtaining high quality printing inks.

It seems that No. 157 (signatures G-S) also exhibits similar characteristics to the orange color variant of the later notes of No. 156. One may construe this as further indication that the orange variant is indeed legitimate. It is strictly a matter of personal preference since arguments may be advanced on both sides. If the variant were to be listed, it should be thus: No. serial numbers; No. 156a, 20 Pesos 1912, serial numbers which are not as clearly G-H, pale orange seal and serial numbers which are not as clearly defined. Rarity might be adjusted according to Dr. Legarda's article but I do not believe the desirability factor is too strong here.

#### STAR NOTES

I am amazed, and pleased, that high denomination issues have been confirmed.

#### CONCLUSION

The above points out one very significant aspect of the study of paper money: even with an issue as well documented as the U.S.-Philippine series there is plenty

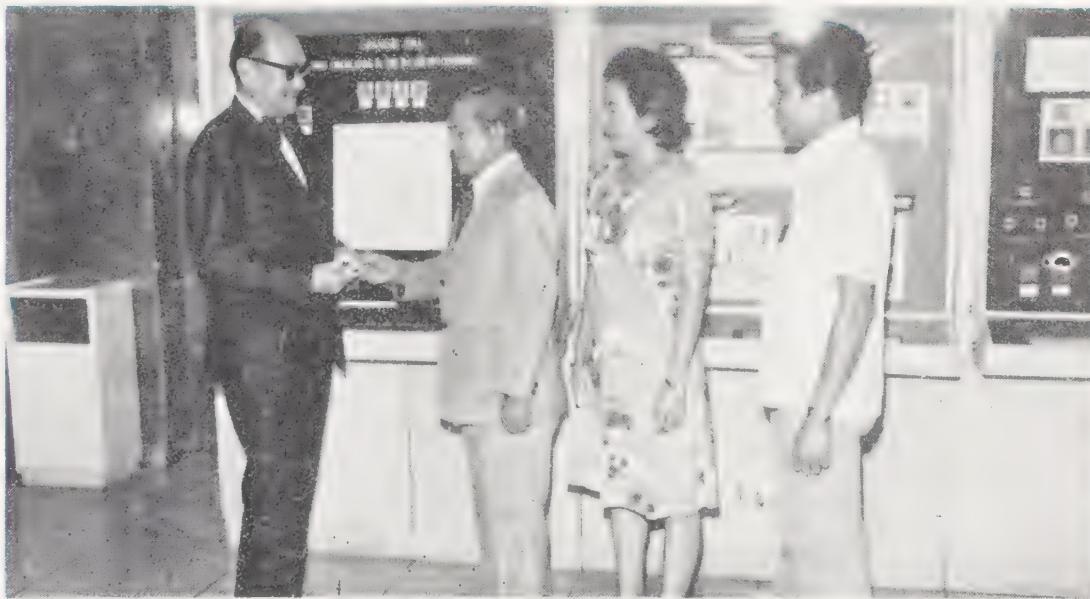
of room for the student to research and observe whatever notes are available to study. I hope in the not too distant future to share a few more variants with readers of **Barrilla**, and of course always hope to find out about new notes and variants for my own better knowledge of the series.

### A LOCAL ISSUE FROM ILOILO CITY

A couple of years ago Mr. Bill Kiszely, a dealer from Michigan, let me have the illustrated piece from Iloilo City. I would like to ask for opinions as to its possible date of issue, and whether or not the "New China Restaurant" might still be in operation. This chit is on heavy cardboard; the face is printed in a dull maroon, and the back has Chinese characters and "50¢" in black, with a blue signature beneath. Any information or background concerning this item would be gratefully appreciated; if anyone has something to say about it, why not write in to **Barrilla**, so everyone may share it. □



1108 50¢  
3号 *Handwritten signature*



Ex-Senator Jose Roy presents his donation consisting of two (2) pieces of 8-Maravedi coins. Shown receiving the coins for the Money Museum is Deputy Governor Benito J. Legarda while Dr. Angelita G. Legarda, Numismatic Consultant, and Antonio M. del Mundo, Administrative Officer, look on.

# The World of Ancient Coins

by

James W. Thompson

(Plates by Leigh Coriell-Thompson)

James W. Thompson has been making an extensive study of Greek and Roman numismatics since 1967 when he started collecting ancient coins. He is a member of the National Historical Society and of the Monmouth County Civil War Round Table in New Jersey. He is also a member of the Union County Coin Club (of New Jersey) and the Ancient Coin Society of New York; at both clubs he has delivered a number of lectures on ancient coins. His displays of ancient coins have given him first place awards at several New Jersey coin conventions. While attending Union College (where he earned his associate of arts degree), Mr. Thompson was a guest lecturer on ancient numismatic art for the college's Fine Arts department. At present he is attending Rutgers University, where he is a history major. Besides numismatics and history, his interests include astronomy, chess, genealogy and lapidary work.

## INTRODUCTION

The great fascination of ancient coins is that, unlike any coinage since, they accurately reflect the civilizations and cultures of the peoples who issued them. The coins served as mass media, transmitter of local history, legend and religion, tourist advertisements, a barometer of economic condition — as well as being a medium of exchange. From them we may study the art, history, politics and life of the Greek and Roman World. We can always find something new from their study; a lost city or a forgotten ruler, a ruined temple or an abandoned cult, whose only legacy is its mention on a coin. In this article we shall first examine the nature of ancient coinage, then we shall see some of the ways in which these coins add to our knowledge of the ancient world; lastly, I shall present some advice to

aspiring collectors, including a bibliography.

The coins which we will discuss are divided into five classes: 1) Greek coins, struck by the various city-states, kingdoms and federations of the Mediterranean world before its domination by Rome; 2) Greek Imperial coins, issued in the same areas, but under Roman control and supervision; 3) Roman Colonial coins, struck by colonies of Roman citizens established in various formerly Greek cities; 4) Roman Republican coins, issued by the city of Rome from c. 400 BC until the reign of Augustus (27 BC—AD 14); 5) Roman Imperial coins, struck by the mint of Rome and its subsidiaries, in the name of the emperor, from 27 BC until the end of empire in the west in AD 476. We shall discuss each of these classes.

## The Origin of Coinage and the Greeks

The collection of peoples which we classify under the heading of "Greek" would certainly horrify a citizen of ancient Athens. The core of these peoples, of course, are the true Greeks: not only on their native peninsula, but also in the western and eastern colonies. To this, however, we add the Celts of Iberia, the barbarians of Gaul, Britain and the trans-Danube region, the Etruscans, the tribes of Italy, the Phoenicians, the North Africans, the Macedonians, the Jews and many other lesser groups; all their coinage is lumped under the title "Greek".

The first coinage grew out of a need for a standard of value for commerce and trade. The accepted method of trade, barter, had many serious defects. The problems of direct trade are obvious: if a man needed a cow, he would take something of which he had a surplus (let us say grain) to the marketplace and attempt to find a man who had a cow and wanted grain. If he found one, fine, but he might find the owner of the cow had enough grain and wanted some other good; therefore, a long series of trades could easily result from an attempt to negotiate one bargain.

In the late ninth century BC, or perhaps earlier, the people of Lydia began taking small nuggets of metal from the beds of one of their streams. These yellow-white lumps were electrum, a natural alloy of gold and silver. Because they could be worked as decoration or jewelry, they were in great demand. So it was that electrum entered the market place as another barter item.

This new good had many of the things which we now recognize as necessary for coinage: it was portable, had a fixed value (by weight), was durable and was

readily accepted in exchange for goods or services. It did have two weaknesses, the remedying of which would lead to the birth of coinage. The first problem was that the pieces were unworked and so there was no fixed weight to them. The second problem was that, being a natural alloy, they were of undetermined purity.

The merchants of Lydia grew tired of weighing and re-weighing electrum; so they began to cut lines or marks into the lumps. These were probably indications of weight and gave the sign of the trader.

This was only a partial solution to the problem, as one man might not know or honor the mark of another merchant. The government then stepped into the picture, weighed some of the electrum and then stamped them with a symbol of their power which also guaranteed the coin's value. This was the solution to the first problem. Shortly hereafter, around 700 BC, the striking of virgin electrum was abandoned and the metal refined and weighed before the actual striking.

These first coins are miserable little things when compared with the later Greek coins. On the obverse is usually found the head or body of an animal, symbolic of the area of mintage; the reverse is usually only a punchmark. We show two early pieces in the plates (nos. 1 and 2).

Coinage gradually developed from this primitive state; reverse types and some inscriptions, though crude, begin to appear in the mid-sixth century. From the early fifth century BC until the beginning of Greek Imperial coinage, the designs which appear on the coins cease to be mere guarantees of value and become works of art. The development of this art form occurred in several stages, generally divided as follows:

Archaic: c. 700-480 BC  
Transitional: 480-415 BC  
Finest Art: 415-336 BC  
Later Fine Art: 336-280 BC  
Decline: 280-146 BC  
Further Decline: 146-27 BC

These dates are very abstract at best, and many exceptions to them exist. We have already described the coins of the Archaic period, and now we will look at some of the characteristics of the other periods.

While the Archaic and Transitional art periods were quite widespread in influence, the period of Finest Art occurred in only certain areas. Strangely enough, almost none of these areas were in Greece itself. The two major areas were in the western Greek colonies of South Italy and Sicily and the eastern colonies along the west coast of Turkey (Lydia, Ionia, Caria, etc.). It appears that a few other isolated areas had excellent craftsmen as well. Those areas not affected by this period generally peaked in a kind of art close to that of the Later Fine Art, and then declined rather quickly.

Transitional coins combine archaic art forms with several new traditions. Firstly, the punchmark finally disappears from the reverse and is replaced by either an animal or deity symbolic of the issuer. Secondly, inscriptions now appear regularly; lastly, the coins are struck on larger and better flans than was the case before. To illustrate the art of this time, two specimens, one of Athens and one of Sybaris are included in the plates (nos. 3 and 4).

The great migration of artists, which caused the finest coins to be made outside of Greece proper, was a direct result of the **Peloponnesian War** which ravaged Greece during this period. As this self-

destructive conflict raged on, artists, unable to work under such conditions, fled to more peaceful parts of the Grecian world. Their brilliant work continued in the west until the Carthago-Roman conflict destroyed that area's greatness; the appearance of the armies of Alexander the Great ended the fine art of the eastern colonies.

The types found in this period are generally those of the Transitional; but they are executed with much greater skill and care. One notable exhibition of their skill is their amazing treatment of the facing head. The plates (nos. 5-10) show a few such pieces, as well as other coins from this period.

The art of the period of Later Fine Art is very good, but it does not equal that of the last period. The change is subtle, but it is readily apparent: the coins are not original, the designs are stolid and somewhat repetitious. We have left the time of the free Greek city-states; we have entered the age of imperial and federal coinages. The most important money of this time was that of Alexander the Great of Macedonia, whose coins not only circulated in his vast empire, but were also current in areas not under his control. The most significant artistic development in this period is the first appearance of portraits of living rulers. For examples, see plates number 11 through 15.

The Period of Decline is rather similar to the last, but with accentuation of the characteristics which we mentioned. The successors of Alexander struck extensive portrait coinages in this period, and many monetary leagues were formed, such as famous Achaean League. The second, and final, period of decline is best shown by the plates which clearly demonstrate the terrible degeneration of Greek coinage.





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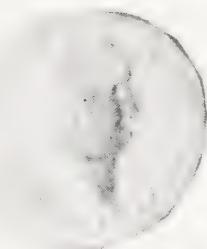
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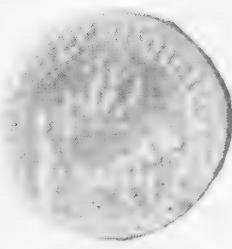
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As the weakened cities of Greece were gobbled up by the Romans, we move into a new period of coinage, which we will consider below. For specimens from these last two periods, see plate nos. 16-20.

It must be noted before we leave the area of Greek coinage that there were large sections of the ancient world whose coins, though they are grouped together under the epithet "Greek", had nothing to do with the artistic traditions which we have discussed above. In the plates are included a number of these coins from various areas, which will give the reader some idea of the extraordinary diversity of the coinage of this period (plate nos. 21-28).

### **Greek Imperial Coinage**

The conquest of Greece by Rome was a gradual process which spanned over two centuries. As Roman influence expanded, the effects are reflected in the coins: the names of Roman magistrates appear, new cities appear as minting places, while some old mints are closed down.

Until the time of Augustus, however, there was no extraordinary change in the Greek coin traditions. A few cities struck coins in honor of Julius Caesar and M. Antonius, and the first coins of the Roman colonies appear in the time of Caesar, but the great part of the coinage was largely unchanged. Augustus took what he found and altered it permanently. He devised a multi-leveled system of coinage for the Greeks. The following is a summary of this system:

1. Autonomous cities: some selected cities were allowed to continue striking in their own name without reference to Rome or to the emperor (plate 29).
2. Semi-autonomous cities: certain other cities or regions struck coinage without reference to the emperor, but giving the name of the local

Roman magistrate (plate 30).

3. Cities of Senatorial Provinces: the Roman Senate had titular control over some areas in the imperial period. These areas struck coins bearing the name of the city and the head of either "Goddess Roma" or of the "Holy Senate" (plate 31).
4. Cities of Imperial Provinces: these cities (which made up the largest part of the sum total of cities) struck coins bearing the portrait and titles of the emperor or of one of his family. Some also bear a magistrate's name (plates 32-33).
5. Client-kings: some puppet kings were allowed to retain limited autonomy. Their coins show the head of the emperor on one side and, in most cases, that of the king on the other (plates 34-35).
6. Alliances: throughout this period, cities were allowed to make trade treaties and other minor alliances between each other. The existence of such treaties was often marked by a special coinage (plate 36).
7. "Koinons": these were regional minting authorities, covering a whole province. They struck coins in their own name, and also certain city coins mention the jurisdiction of a koinon over them (plate 37).
8. Greek Military Colonies: most military colonies of the Romans issued Latin coins (which we will consider later), but a few in the later empire issued coins in Greek (plate 38).
9. Coins without city or region name: several types of coins are known which present the head of one of the imperial family on either side, without mention of the place of mintage. These coins must be compared to coins of a known city to find style similarities and so identify them (plates 39-40).



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51



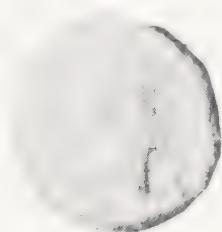
52



53



54



55



57



56

This extraordinary system persisted until the time of Gallienus (253-268), when all but a few of the Greek mints were closed or converted to regular Latin coinage. The last mint to be converted was that of Alexandria in Egypt, which changed over in AD 297. The last client king was Rhescuporis VI of the Cimmerian Bosphorus, who issued coins until AD 342.

To exert economic dominance over the Greeks, the Romans prohibited them from striking gold coins and severely curtailed their issuance of silver. A number of Asia Minor cities were given the right to coin in silver; the two most important were Caesareia in Cappadocia (plate 41) and Antioch in Syria (plates 42-43).

The art work of these coins varies greatly from place to place. The upper and lower limits are fairly well represented by the two coins shown in plates 44-45 (It is interesting to note that the horse on the coin of Nero was a bronze sculpture which is now on St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice). Generally, the coins are poorly executed, with stiff and standardized types. Though there are a multitude of reverse types, the commonest is probably the bust or standing figure of Tyche (guardian spirit of the city). See plates 46 and 47.

The coinage of the imperial province of Egypt, struck mainly at Alexandria, is the most varied and perhaps the most interesting of all the Greek Imperial series. Coins were struck in billon (debased silver), which was gradually debased into bronze (plates 48 and 49). The bronze coinage itself, which extended from the time of Augustus until the reign of Gallienus (plates 50 and 51), contains many well-executed large coins as well as a plentitude of smaller denominations. These bronze

coins may be recognized by their angled edges which was the result of the flans having been cast before striking; in some cases, one or two casting sprues are still on the coin (plate 52).

Coins were also struck for the various administrative districts of Egypt, which were called nomes. These coins, all of which are very rare, were mostly struck at Alexandria (plate 53), but a few appear to have been issued at the nome itself (plate 54). As the coinage of Roman Egypt is too large to cover in an article such as this, I strongly recommend that the reader refer to the books listed in the bibliography.

Certain Greek Imperial coins bear countermarks, sometimes indicating a change of emperor or a revaluation of the coin. The countermarks which are included in the plates are representative and worthy of discussion. The first piece, of Antonius (plate 55), is most historic and, as far as I know, the countermark is published here for the first time. The head of Antonius has been slashed (this is called a "damnatio memoriae"), and a stamp of two clasped hands has been added. These hands are a symbol of concord; therefore this was stamped at the end of the Roman Civil War, which terminated with the death of Antonius. The coin of Nero (plate 56) has been marked with the head of one of his successors, Vespasianus. This sort of marking sometimes occurs, but it is not as common as might be imagined. The third piece (plate 57) is an example of revaluation. Through an off-center strike and wear the name of the minting city had disappeared (the coin is from Seleuceia Pieria in Syria); so the letters CE were added to the coin to identify it. The last coin, a tiny bronze of



58



59

Nero from Alexandria in Egypt, has been stamped with what appears to be the sacred eye of Horus. Until the discovery of this coin, which is published here for the first time, no countermarked coins were known from Egypt. The meaning and origin of this stamp are not yet known (plates 58 and 59).

With the final absorption of the much degenerated Greek coinage in AD 296, the last remains of a remarkable tradition of excellence in coinage were laid to rest.

*(To be continued)*

#### NOTES TO THE PLATES

In the following notes, I have given the name of the ruler and/or city involved, the denomination of the coin (if known) and the approximate date of the coin. Where the name of a ruler is given for either side of the description, it indicates the head of that person appears. For the interest of the more advanced students, I have also included a catalogue number for each piece, where possible, and a mention of its rarity. When a side is not shown in the plates, I have placed its description in parentheses. The abbreviations used are:

Ar - silver

ae - bronze

BMC - *Catalogue of Greek Coins in the British Museum* (a very important but expensive reference)

C - Cohen, Henri. *Monnaies frappes sous L'Empire Romain*. (a standard reference)

H - Heiss, Alois. *Monnaies antiques de l'Espagne*.

BMC - means that the coin is not listed in the particular reference.

/ - divides the obverse and reverse descriptions.

R - rare; RR - very rare;

RRR - extremely rare; RRRR - probably unique.

1. Persian Empire (doubtfully given to Arses, 338-337 BC). Ar. siglos Kingincuse. Seaby 2529.
2. Miletus in Ionia, c. 500 BC. Ar obol. Lion head/Star design.
3. Athens in Attica, 490-430 BC. Ar Tetradrachm. Athena/Owl. BMC 43, Seaby 984. This beautiful coin was the trade dollar of the Grecian world for over a century.
4. Sybaris in Lucania, c. 445 BC. Ar 1/6 stater. Athena/(Bull). BMC 33. R. This city was famous for its excessive luxury; from its name comes the English word "sybarite"...
5. Mausolus, satrap of Caria, 377-353 BC. Ar drachm. Apollo/Zeus). BMC 9. R. The widow of this man built a great tomb for him called the "Mausoleum", one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world.
6. Philippus II, king of Macedonia, 359-336 BC. Ar tetraobol, Apollo/(youth on horse). The father of Alexander the Great
7. Chalcis in Euboea, 369-336 BC. Ae. Hera/(Eagle). BMC 70. The five discs on the crown of Hera are the planets known to the ancients.
8. Thyrrheum in Acarnania, 350-336 BC. Ar stater. (Pegasus)/Athena. cf. BMC 7. This is an example of extremely fine art away from the main areas of Finest Art.
9. Agrientum in Sicily, 330-287 BC. Ae hemilitron. (Akragas)/Eagle and crab. BMC 124.
10. Neapolis in Campania, 300-260 BC. Ae. Apollo/(Tripod). A late piece of fine art.
11. Alexander III the Great, king of Macedonia. 336-323 BC. Ar drachm. Herakles/(Zeus). This coin and its larger denominations replaced the coins of Athens as the world's trade mints from Macedonia to India.
12. Hieron II, king of Syracuse in Sicily, 271-215 BC. Ae. King/(Horseman). BMC 587.
13. Megara in the Achaean League, 280-146 BC. Ar drachm. Zeus/symbols in wreath. BMC 7.
14. Berenice II of Egypt (issued at Marathus in Phoenicia) 221-146 BC. Queen/(Marathos). BMC 5. R.
15. Demetrius I of Syria (issued at Tyre in Phoenicia), 159 BC. King/(Galley). Head 764.
16. Rhodes Is. off Caria, 166-88 BC. Ar hemidrachm. Helios/(Rose). BMC 291. This is a portrait taken from the famous Colossus, one of the Seven Wonders.
17. Alexandria in Troas, after 189 BC. Ae. Apollo/(Lyre). BMC —. R.
18. Apollonia in the Lycian League, 146 BC-AD 43. Ae. Athena/Zeus (?). BMC —. RRR. A coin of the last of the autonomous leagues.
19. Tarsus in Cilicia, 146-27 BC. Ae. Tyche/(Sandan monument). BMC 106.
20. Aradus in Phoenicia, 137-46 BC. Ar tetradrachm. Tyche/(Nike). BMC 191.
21. Gaza in Palestine, c. 450 BC. Ar drachm. Athena/Owl. BMC —. RR. Copied from the coins of Athens and identified by its odd style.
22. Strato, satrap of Sidon in Phoenicia, 370-358 BC. Ae. (Galley/Persian king in chariot).
23. Ebusus Is. off Spain, 200-100 BC. Ae. Kabeiros/(inscription). H 3. RR.
24. Damastium in Illyricum, c. 200 BC. Ar drachm. Cow and calf/(Design).

25. Philoxenus, king of Bactria, 90-80 BC. Ae. Tyche/(Bull). BMC 11. Such square coins are typical of Grecian India.

26. Gotarzes, king of Parthia, 40-51 AD. Ar drachm, King/(Arasces). Seaby 2586.

27. Varjanes II, king of Parthia, 55-58 AD. Ae. King/(Zeus). BMC 29,17.

28. Orodes II, king of Elymais, 90-100 AD. Ae drachm. King/(Dashes). BMC 71. Thus ends the facing bust type; from great beauty to great crudity.

29. Callatis in Moesia, Imperial Period. Ae. Artemis/Eros on lion.

30. Lacedaemon (Sparta) in Laconia, 27 BC-AD 14. Ae. (Herakles)/Club in wreath. BMC 63. The name of the magistrate on this coin is Eurykleos.

31. Saitta in Lydia, Imperial Period. Ae. Holy Senate/(Athena).

32. Thyratira in Lydia, 54-68. Ae. (Nero/Double axe. BMC 58.

33. Aezanis in Phrygia, 37-41 AD. Ae. (Caligula)/Zeus. BMC 58. The magistrate here is Lollius Classicanus.

34. Rhoemetacles I, king of Thrace and Augustus, 11 BC-12 AD. Ae. King/Augustus. BMC 7.

35. Polemon II, king of Pontus and Nero, 54-65. Ae. Nero/Serpents and caduceus. Struck at Olba in Cilicia. BMC RR.

36. Alliance between Smyrna in Ionia and Nicomedia in Bithynia, 177-180. Ae. (Commodus)/Two tyches shaking hands, prows at feet between. R.

37. Neocaesarea, Koinon of Pontus, 198-217. Ae. (Caracalla)/Temple. Note the word koinon up the left side of the temple.

38. Rhesaena in Mesopotamia, 249-251 Ae. (Trajan Dacius)/Colonist with plow. The last part of the reverse ins-

cription is LIIIP (Legion III Parthica) which was stationed at this frontier colony.

39. Antioch in Syria, 241-244. Ae tetradrachm. Godian III/Tranquillina. BMC—. RR. A special coin, struck to honor their arrival at the city.

40. Cyprus, 81-96. Ae. Domitianus/(Domitia, empress). BMC—. RR.

41. Caesarea in Cappadocia, 117-138. Ar. didrachm. Hadrianus/(Mt. Argeus).

42. Antioch in Syria, 244-247. Ar tetradrachm. (Philippus II)/Eagle.

43. Antioch in Syria, 249-251. Ae. (Herennius Etruscus)/Temple.

44. Cyme in Aeolis, 54-68. Ae. Nero/Horse. BMC —. R.

45. Ascalon in Judaea, 117-138. Ae. Hadrianus/Goddess Decreto. BMC 175. R.

46. Anemurium in Cilicia, 196. Ae. (Septimius Severus)/Tyche. BMC —. RR.

47. Amasia in Pontus, 177-192. Ae medallion, (Commodus)/Tyche. BMC —. RR.

48. Alexandria in Egypt, 134. Ar tetradrachm. Hadrianus/(Sarapis). Milne 1395.

49. Alexandria in Egypt, 289. Ae tetradrachm. Maximianus/(Alexandria). Milne 4905.

50. Alexandria in Egypt, 147. Ae drachm. Antoninus Pius/(Roma). Milne 1875.

51. Alexandria in Egypt, 264. Ae drachm. Gallienus/(Homonoia). Milne 4112a. RR.

52. Coptis Nome in Egypt, 110. Ae. Dicachlon. (Trajan)/Elephant. Milne —. RR. Note the large sprue on this coin.

53. Lower Sebenna Nome, 127 AD. Ae obol. (Hadrianus)/Ares. Milne 1222. RR.

54. Coptis Nome, 127 AD. Ae Obol. (Hadrianus)/Geb. Milne 1237f. RR. Geb was a very obscure nature god; he only appears on this coin.

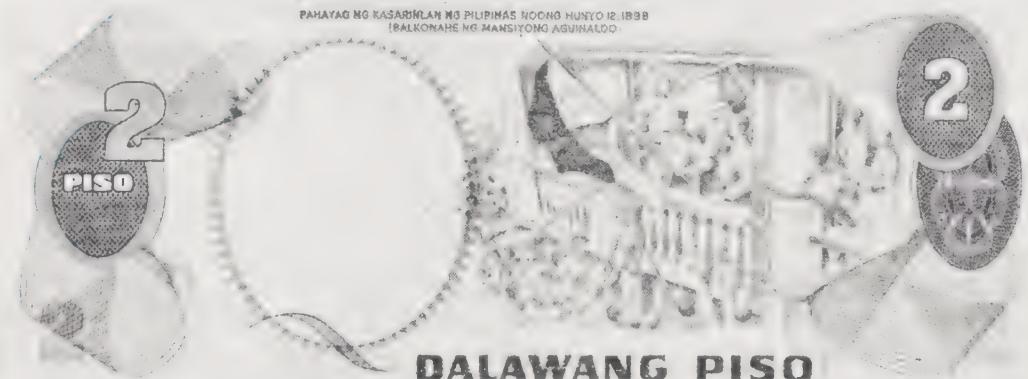
55. Balanaea in Syria. 35-31 BC. Ae. M. Antonius/(Bacchus in chariot). BMC \_\_\_\_ .RR.

56. Antiocheia ad Hippun in Decapolis. Ae. Nero/(Horse). BMC \_\_\_. RRRR.

57. Seleuceia Pieria in Syria, 222 AD. Severus Alexander (Temple). BMC \_\_\_\_ R.

58. Alexandria in Egypt, 63 AD (?). Ae dichalkon. Nero/I in wreath. Milne \_\_\_. RRRR.

59. Enlargement of No. 58, showing the countermark of the "eye of Horus".



**THE TWO-PESO BILL RETURNS.** After a long absence, the 2-Peso banknote returned to circulation with the issuance of this denomination - a very unpopular and considered an unlucky one in the U.S.A. - on December 24, 1975 in response to a clamor for a lower-valued paper note. Predominantly blue, it features on the obverse the profile of Jose Rizal and the "Bagong Lipunan" overprint on the watermarked portion. A vignette of the declaration of independence by Emilio Aguinaldo on June 12, 1898 reminiscent of the demonetized 1-Peso Pilipino banknote dominates the reverse.



# CATHERINE THE GREAT

by

Dr. Josef Rosen,



(Ed's Note: This article is reprinted from Bulletin, Autumn 1974 with the permission of the publishers – Credit Suisse Economic Department, Zurich.)

Princess Sophia of Anhalt-Zerbst (born on May 2, 1729) was the daughter of one of Germany's countless obscure princely families, and the first quarter of her life was rather uneventful. Her father served as a general in the army of King Frederick II of Prussia; he was promoted to the rank of field marshall on account of his daughter, *honoris causa* so to speak. He was an honest man and devout Lutheran, whose parting words to his beloved 'Fieghen', as his daughter was called, expressed the care closest to his heart: 'Stay true to our faith!' The general however was not an outstanding soldier. Sophia's good-looking mother was a superficial, designing woman of little intelligence. It is astonishing how this couple produced such an amazingly gifted daughter.

During the second quarter of her life, Crown Princess Catherine, as she was now called, lived and suffered in Russia. She endured the capricious temper and tyranny of the Tsarina Elizabeth, who was a daughter of Peter the Great. In 1727 the male line of the Romanov dynasty had died out. Elizabeth had risen to power

through a palace revolution of the army in 1741. From this time until the turn of the century and the assassination of Catherine's son Paul, the Tsars' consecrated oil and often enough their lives were in the hands of the imperial guard.

Elizabeth, being childless herself, wanted to secure the succession to the throne. She did so early and, with admirable skill, made the worst possible choice: Karl Peter Ulrich of Schleswig-Holstein became 'crown prince'. He was taken to Russia at the age of fourteen. Peter Ulrich was an ugly and repulsive boy, a wicked and infantile cretin. He hated the country which he was to rule, despised the Russian people and language and the Orthodox religion to which he had to convert. His ideal was Frederick II, King of Prussia.

### THE TSAREVITCH'S BRIDE

It was the same Frederick II who at Elizabeth's request procured a bride for the Tsarevitch. On January 1, 1744 – when Sophia was scarcely 15 years old – a letter from the all-powerful Empress was delivered by a mounted messenger, requesting mother and daughter to set out

with all possible speed for St . Petersburg. This letter was followed immediately by one from Frederick II, an order so to speak from the chief to his subaltern general, the girl's father. No tragedy! The little princess did not need to be coerced. She was ambitious and wanted to escape from the confines of her parental home; she was only too willing to become crown princess and one day Tsarina. Sophia had always dreamed of being a queen. The splendid future presented to her attracted the girl irresistibly.

The young bride was determined from the very beginning to be Russian and nothing but Russian, to embrace the Russian Orthodox faith unconditionally, to learn Russian as fast as possible and not to remain a foreigner; she wanted to become fully integrated. It was her principle to adapt herself and make herself popular. Her extreme ambition sustained her during the darkest hours. And she succeeded. In June 1744 she was received into the Orthodox Church and baptised Catherine Alexeievna. In August 1745 the wedding took place with Russian-Orthodox splendour. And that was it for the time being.

## MARRIAGE AS MARTYRDOM

In September 1754, Catherine gave birth to a son – later to become Tsar Paul – whose resemblance to his father was all too clear. Tsarina Elizabeth immediately carried the baby off, without even letting Catherine see it. At the end of 1757 a second child was born – Anne – and again the baby was taken away from the mother by the Tsarina. However, it died in the following year.

Catherine was not allowed to write to her family. This was just one of the many tortures inflicted on her by the sadistic Elizabeth. In her memoirs Catherine later

confessed: 'L'ambition seule me soutenait'. And added to this was the agony of having to live with such a husband. They did not lead a proper marital life in any case. He preferred playing with dolls and tin soldiers, or drilling and beating his wretched servants. As soon as he was capable he took a mistress, Elizabeth Vorontsova, a very ugly young girl who suited him thoroughly. The pretty and sensual Catherine did the same. Among the officers of the imperial guard there were some very attractive men. Even nowadays austere censors reproach her for loose living. A husband may, but not his wife. Her first lover was Sergei Saltykov, a man of good looks and bad character. Her next suitor, a Pole named Stanislas Poniatowski, was undoubtedly of much better quality. He loved her all his life. Catherine was then 25 and he 22. She later made him King of Poland.

After Poniatowski, she had a liaison with Gregory Orlov who was seven years younger. This age difference was a characteristic of all her friendships, love affairs and flirts – she was always the older woman, motherly.

## CONSOLATIONS OF PHILOSOPHY

For nine years she had suffered a marriage that was no marriage at all. She got through the subsequent nine years relatively unscathed. But these 18 years were still full of bitterness. Few women would have survived this purgatory unharmed. Her doctor was amazed that she did not loose her mind under these circumstances. In her *memoris* Catherine writes:

'During these 18 years I had to lead a life which would have driven 10 other women insane and which would have made 20 other women die of grief, had they been in my position.'

Catherine had one consolation. She read an enormous number of books, both trivial ones and as time went on more and more profound ones. There was no method in her reading; she was an autodidact and drank in knowledge and thoughts like water. She read Russian; she studied Greek and Latin classics in good translations; she read the four volumes of the 'Dictionnaire historique et critique' by Pierre Bayle, and also Tacitus and Madame de Sevigne, in fact whatever she could lay her hands upon. In this way she soon discovered the works of her great contemporary, Voltaire, who became her teacher and idol.

Catherine bore her two crosses — the behaviour of the Tsarina and that of Grand Duke Peter — with admirable endurance. This was the second quarter of her life. Then on January 5, 1762 the Tsarina Elizabeth died; Peter became Tsar without being crowned. He was about to repudiate his wife, to shut her up in a nunnery and perhaps even make an attempt on her life. But Catherine and her supporters fought back, and shortly afterwards Catherine became Tsarina and Autocrat of all the Russians after a bloodless coup d'état.

### EMPERESS AND INTELLECTUAL

Her friend Orlov, his four brothers, and the imperial guard acted on their own initiative and forced the imbecile Tsar to abdicate in favour of *Matushka Ekaterina*

Little Mother Catherine. The coronation took place on September 23, 1762 in Moscow. Catherine was 33 years of age. The people knelt down and cheered her. Over the previous years she had already displayed her strength of character and resilience. In the next 34 years, the second half of her life, she gave proof of her qualities as a sovereign.



Gold Medalet 1791

Around 1775 she fell in love with Gregory Potemkin who remained her life-long friend. He too was younger than her by ten years. Potemkin was a brilliant organizer and highly gifted politician; until his death in 1791 he remained the Tsarina's faithful and successful adviser.

Those who thought she would prove an untroublesome and pliable ruler were soon obliged to think again. Catherine was now free to act and to be a true queen whose intellect and culture could stand comparison with anyone's. Her extensive reading during the long and bitter years of waiting and suffering was beginning to bear fruit. She knew how to think and to work and she did both. She was an accomplished writer, producing articles, satires and plays. Above all she wrote a large number of interesting letters, in a century which valued the art of correspondence greatly. She kept up a lively correspondence with such illustrious admirers as Voltaire, Diderot, the driving force behind the 'Encyclopaedia', and Baron Melchior von Grimm, her 'factotum'. Voltaire and Catherine corresponded regularly with each other during the last 15 years of his life. He called her 'Notre-Dame de Petersbourg'.

In the Age of Enlightenment public opinion was formed by the intellectuals and their entourage who frequented the literary salons. The Tsarina obviously endeavoured to influence others, and she succeeded completely. Her literary friends



and admirers conducted clever and successful public relations for the Great Catherine, the Semiramis of the North, and consequently for the Russian State.

Catherine wanted to apply the ideas of the Enlightenment to what was then the most backward country in Europe. But not with an iron fist, like Peter the Great, who failed in his titanic task. Nor was she an admirer of technology like him; she possessed the knowledge of the Enlightenment and she also had its illusions.

### MONETARY AND LEGAL REFORMS

Her reforms of the Russian monetary system were important and bore fruit. With the *ukase* of May 1785 she introduced a paper currency of 33 million roubles worth of bank notes, an enormous sum at that time. Two thirds of this money was lent to the nobility for 20 years, at an interest of 8 percent, so that by the end of this period the debt was redeemed. More important however was her standardisation and consolidation of metal coinage. The basis itself, the Empress explained, is not so important as long as the content remains unchanged. In future, copper money was to be minted in such a way that one pud (16.381 kg) of copper yielded coins worth 16 roubles. The more valuable silver money was to have a fine content of 720 (before the fineness of silver coins in circulation had varied from 630 to 820). The circulation of gold coins

was relatively small, estimated at only 1 million roubles. Their value and fineness were to correspond with those of other coins; thus 28,000 roubles were to be coined from one pud.

The Tsarina started on various reforms and actually carried out a few of them. But her main achievement was the Great Code of Laws, the *Nakaz*, whose famous 'Instructions' in 655 paragraphs were written and issued by herself over a period of two years. This work was copied all over Europe. But her *Nakaz*, written with a view to the work to be done by the legislative Commission in 1767 – two centuries ago –, was bound to miscarry due to the adverse conditions prevailing in Russia at that time. However as a sketch for a 'revolution from above', the *Nakaz* is of great importance. It was inspired by Montesquieu's *L'Esprit des Lois*. The Empress' instructions were so explosive that Panin, her closest adviser, warned her that they could lead to revolution ('ce sont des axiomes à renverser des murailles') ... Catherine had written an optimistic book, a sort of 'catechism of the art of legislation. Representatives were elected all over the country who submitted their reports and petitions in the form of 1441 'cahiers'.

In her proposed reforms, however, the Tsarina observed strict limits: Catherine governed through the support of the up-



per class, the nobility, the rising bourgeoisie and the ecclesiastical hierarchy; in other words she depended on those who lived on and from the people. The serfs, who formed the great majority of the population, were expected to know their place at the bottom of society and bear their servitude with a good grace. They were to supply the raw material for the grandiose imperial projects in Russia and abroad and for the luxurious way of life of the aristocratic landowners to whom they 'belonged'.

### IMPERIAL MEMOIRS

Catherine recounts the story of her life in her 'memoirs', a document written secretly but intended for contemporaries and posterity. The account starts with the 15 years of her happy childhood, then tells the sad chapter of the following 18 years when she had to pay with tears for her 'splendour' and was sustained only by her ambition and her unshakable faith in a happy ending, and closes with her ascension to the throne as Autocrat of all Russias and Head of the Russian Orthodox Church. This report is of course written *ad usum Delphini*. Catherine gives *her* version of the events. Nevertheless, despite exaggeration and embroidery, the characters of the protagonists (the Tsarina Elizabeth and Catherine's husband Peter) as well as the other actors are clearly recognizable. Furthermore, one can compare and check her description of the events with other records. Her memoirs remain a well-written, interesting and sincere 'human document'.

### GOOD INTENTIONS AND THEIR FAILURE

Catherine's domestic policy had little or no influence on the structure of her backward imperium. The Tsarina's good intentions were bound to miscarry; the resistance and inertia of the government apparatus, the bureaucrats and all sections of the population were just too strong. Two momentous events caused the Empress to discard the ideas and ideals of the Enlightenment, which had originally influenced her so strongly. The first was the peasants' revolt in 1773, led by Emelyan Pugachev, a Don Cossack who pretended to be Tsar Peter III, Catherine's late husband. It was only with the greatest difficulty that this rebellion of peasants and Cossacks was put down. Like similar uprisings in other countries, it was drowned in blood. Pugachev was handed over to General Panin by his own lieutenants and executed at the beginning of 1775. However, the Tsarina freed the rebel's two wives and children — he lived in bigamy — and saw to it that they did not go hungry. This revolutionary outbreak upset Catherine deeply and changed her social attitudes fundamentally. This was the end of enlightened absolutism. The Empress now knew on which side she stood. She was the Tsarina of the land-owning nobility and with them ruled over millions of serfs. It was the beginning of the reactionary rule of the nobility.

But this did not prevent Catherine or her correspondents of the Enlightenment and the 'Encyclopaedia' from keeping in close contact, from philosophizing and discussing. Nor did she have any qualms about having her favourite nephew Alexander educated by the Swiss republican Frederic-Cesar de La Harpe. And so it continued until 1789 when the French Revolution erupted in Paris and sent tremors over all Europe. This marked the end of the flirt with progress, philosophy and enlightenment. The 'Encyclopaedia' had paved the way for the Great Revolution.

The French State was taken over by a new ruling class: the Third Estate, the bourgeoisie. This was too much for Catherine; she left the path of progress for good and became ultra-reactionary. She explained emphatically: 'Moi je resterai aristocrate, c'est mon métier.' (I shall remain an aristocrat, it's my job.)

### SUCCESSFUL FOREIGN POLICY

Catherine's most important successes were achieved in foreign policy. In this field she did not fail. That is the way it goes: in foreign affairs, emperors and kings acquire the byname 'the Great' through wars and conquests. So did Catherine. Russia waged war against Turkey and was victorious. Catherine was thus able to realize some of Peter I's major designs in foreign policy. But Constantinople and Greece resisted the encroachments of the Tsars as of their successors. Catherine expanded the empire from the North Sea to the Black Sea, up to Bug and Dnestr. The Russian border was advanced to Persia. It was this Tsarina, of German origin but thoroughly russified, who erected the magnificent monument to the founder Tsar with the classic inscription:

*Petro primo to Peter the First  
Catherina secunda Catherine the Second*

This statue was the work of Falconet and still stands in St. Petersburg-Leningrad.

Catherine freed Russia from its Western alliances. She pursued an independent, Russian foreign policy. This led to the annexation of the Baltic countries and above all to the three partitions of Poland and the abolition of the Rzeczpospolita (1772, 1793 and 1795). No Tsar had pushed the borders of Holy Russia so far forward. Only Stalin – he too an 'alien' and of unequalled pan-Russian chauvinism – ever did as well as the little princess from Zerbst. But that is another story.

Catherine II died on November 17, 1796. The Prince de Ligne, who knew her well, said of her: 'The Tsarina is the greatest statesman of the century'. He called her 'Catherine le Grand'. □



# Correspondence

American Numismatic Association  
P.O. Box 2366  
Colorado Springs  
Colorado 80901

July 23, 1975

Dr. Angelita G. de Legarda  
Central Bank of the Philippines  
Manila, Philippines 2801

Dear Dr. Legarda:

Well remembering the visit you and your husband made to ANA headquarters last fall, I write to thank you for the copies of *Barrilla* which you have been good enough to send to me. The quality of the publication appears to be improving with every issue. The variety and scope of the articles published therein is also impressive. Two articles in the July issue particularly interest me: those on Medieval Coins and on the Counterstamped Spanish issues used in Britain.

You are to be commended for the quality of the magazine. I am most grateful to you for including me among your subscribers.

I very much hope that you and your husband will again visit ANA headquarters and have a greater amount of time to spend with us.

Sincerely,

(SGD.) ARTHUR M. FITTS III  
Assistant to the Director

DEUTSCHE BUNDES BANK  
6000 Frankfurt I  
Postfach 2633

November 3, 1975

Dear Dr. Legarda:

On the occasion of the October 1975 volume of *Barrilla* which reached us these days, we sincerely wish to thank you for the kindness in sending us your publication so regularly. It always contains some articles dealing with more remote subjects which are not generally known, and so represents a valuable addition to our work and our library.

Sincerely yours,

DEUTSCHE BUNDES BANK  
(SGD.) (Bergen) (Dr. Weschke)

BANCO CENTRAL DEL URUGUAY  
Montevideo

August 21, 1975

Muy señor nuestro:

Nos es grato acusar recibo del interesante folleto titulado *Barrilla* correspondiente al mes de Abril de 1975, que viene a enriquecer – el acervo de la Biblioteca Especializada del Sector Numismático de este Banco Central, y que solicitamos continuar recibiendo sus nuevas publicaciones.

Agradeciendo el gentil envío, aprovechamos la oportunidad – para saludarlo con las consideración mas distinguida.

(SGD.) RAUL DE MEDINA  
Adjunto de Gerencia

3532 Prairie  
Brookfield, Illinois  
November 9, 1975

Dr. Benito J. Legarda  
Central Bank of the Philippines  
Manila, Philippines

Dear Dr. Legarda:

I would like to have a copy of your October issue of *Barrilla*. I am particularly interested in the leading article about Queen Isabel II of Spain and the gold coins struck in the Philippines during her reign, 1834-1835 and 1864-1868. Any information you might have would be appreciated.

Thank you for your assistance. I know I am early, but "Maligayang Pasko".

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) TERRY EVANS

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UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Diliman, Quezon City

June 30, 1975

Dear Lita:

Thank you very much for the *Barrilla* and manuscripts. I have found the articles in *Barrilla* interesting even for one who is not familiar with numismatics. I enjoyed especially the one entitled "Mint Errors: Jose Rizal's 'Ordeal on Coins'"; even the title is very eye-catching.

Warmest regards.

Gratefully,

(SGD.) MRS. DELFIN OCAMPO

BANQUE DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE  
CENTRALE  
29 Rue de Colisée  
75008 Paris

August 18, 1975

Messieurs:

Nous accusons réception du fascicule *Barrilla* d'Avril 1975 sur les billets émis par votre Institution et vous remercions de votre aimable coopération.

Veuillez agréer, Messieurs, l'expression de nos sentiments distingués.

(SGD.) B. BELINGAR

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THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
Washington, D.C. 20540

November 5, 1975

Gentlemen:

The Library has received and recorded *Barrilla*, Vol. II No. 2. We hope that you will make certain that the Library of Congress is on your mailing list to receive subsequent issues as a gift or on an exchange basis.

We shall deeply appreciate your continuing to make this publication available to the Library of Congress.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) NATHAN R. EINHORN  
Chief  
Exchange & Gift Division

Republika ng Pilipinas  
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon at Kultura  
SURIAN NG WIKANG PAMBANSA  
Maynila

DIVINE WORLD UNIVERSITY TACLOBAN  
Tacloban City

October 20, 1975

Mr. Antonio M. del Mundo  
Administrative Officer  
Money Museum  
Central Bank of the Philippines

Dear Mr. del Mundo:

Please accept our thanks and appreciation for your help extended to a researcher of this Office, Jose Antonio M. Tomas, in looking up the equivalents of certain Tagalog monetary terms.

As a reference to the translation of such terms, may we request a complimentary copy of *Barrilla*, October 1975 issue, containing the article "Isabel II and Philippine Numismatics" by Angelita G. Legarda? If back issues are still available, may we also request such copies and future copies of the *Barrilla* for the INL library? We are particularly interested in your forthcoming article on Tagalog monetary terms.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) PONCIANO B. P. PINEDA  
Director

August 25, 1975

Mr. Antonio M. del Mundo  
Administrative Officer  
Money Museum  
Central Bank of the Philippines

Dear Sir:

The Divine Word University publishes twice a year a publication entitled: *The Leyte-Samar Studies*. This publication now in volume nine deals with the history, literature, language and other aspects of life of this region of the country.

Enclosed you will find a list of contents of some of the past issues so that you may gauge the range and quality of the articles published.

May I request that we enter into an exchange agreement between the *Studies* and your publication, *Barrilla*.

By separate cover I am sending you the latest issue.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.)  
FR. RAYMOND QUETCHENBACH, SVD  
Editor, *Leyte-Samar Studies*

**SAVE IN BANKS**

## SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS



Obv.



Rev.

### 8-R Dos Mundos of 1732

Three coins which are ranked among the world's rarest were recently added to the Money Museum's collection. On top is the 1732-Mo 8 Reales Dos Mundos or Pillar Dollar. In extra fine condition with some mint luster around the devices, it is considered by leading numismatists as one of the finest known specimens for this magnificent coin, the high rarity of which is attributed to its being the first in a series of Pillar Dollars which served as the international currency for Asia and the Americas during the 18th century. It was purchased at the auction held during the last annual convention of the American Numismatic Association in Los Angeles, at which the Central Bank was represented by Deputy Governor Benito J. Legarda and Dr. Angelita G. Legarda, Numismatic Consultant.

Purchased at the same auction which was attended by the world's eminent numismatists, dealers and museums was a Spanish 50-Reales silver coin or "cincuentin" dated 1635. Weighing 168 gms. and with a diameter of 75 mm., it may be considered as the largest silver coin during the period though they were exclusively used by the Spanish kings as presentation pieces to visiting royalty and other foreign dignitaries.

Augmenting the 1732 8R purchase is a 1733-MX 4-Reales Dos Mundos likewise in extra fine condition. Very seldom if ever has a 4-Reales coin with an MX mintmark appeared in this condition. The Museum's collection of Pillar Dollars, though not yet complete, has been greatly enhanced by these new acquisitions. ADM



OBV.



REV.

“Cinquentin” dated 1635



Obv.



Rev.

4-R Dos Mundos of 1733

## DONATIONS TO THE MONEY MUSEUM

### COINS:

2 pcs. 10-cruzeiros, from Banco Central Do Brasil.  
 2 pcs. 100-schillings, from the National Bank of Austria.  
 2 pcs. Expo-75 100-yen, from the Bank of Japan.  
 6 pcs. coins from the National Bank of Cuba.  
 5 pcs. coins from the Reserve Bank of India.  
 1 pc. new 5-P coin from Banco Central del Uruguay.  
 6 pcs. 100-Schilling Winter Olympic coins from National Bank of Austria.  
 2 pcs. commemorative coins from the Bank of Israel.  
 1 pc. presentation medal in gold, an oversized replica of the new 1,000-Peso Philippine gold coin. Donated by the Trade Development Bank Overseas, Inc., Switzerland.  
 2 pcs. 8 - Maravedi coins,. Donated by Ex-Sen. Jose Roy.

### PAPER NOTES

2 pcs. each, 1-Peso and 5-Peso banknote from the National Bank of Cuba.  
 1 pc. 2-\$ banknote from the Bank of Canada.  
 2 pcs. 1,000-Kroner specimen notes from Central Bank of Norway.

23 pcs., Guerrilla notes. Donated by the Bureau of Posts thru Postmaster General Felizardo R. Tanabe.

5 pcs. specimen banknotes from the Reserve Bank of Australia.  
 1 pc. 5,000-Peso specimen banknotes from the Banco Central del Uruguay.

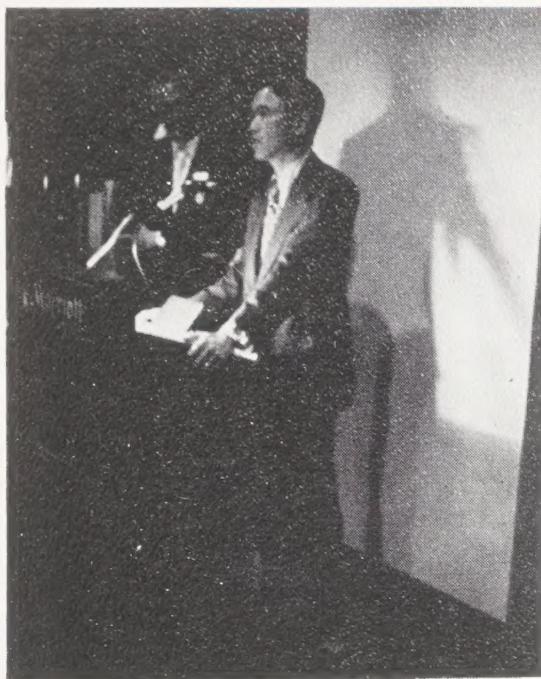
### BOOKS:

From Joseph Coffin:

1. *The Complete Book of Coin Collecting* by Joseph Coffin
2. *Silver Dollars of North and South America* by Wayne Raymund
3. *A Guide Book of U.S. Coins*, 15th edition, by R.S. Yeoman
4. *Japanese Invasion Money* by Arlie R. Slabaugh
5. *Israel's Money* by Leo Kadman
6. *Heraldry in the Victoria and Albert Museum*, published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office
7. *Pre-Confederation Currency in Canada*, published by Bank of Canada
8. *Handbook of Greek and Roman Coins* by Barclay Head.

From Antonio Bantug: *Numisma*, Nos. 24-29.

# A.N.A. Convention Pictorial



Secretary of Finance Cesar E.A. Virata responding for the Philippine Government at the Franklin Mint's presentation of the new 1975 Philippine coins during the last A.N.A. Convention, August 21, 1975.



U.S. Mint Director Mary Brooks autographing Bicentennial Coin Mint Sets with Dr. Angelita Legarda looking on.



Outgoing President Virginia Culver wedges in between Paramount Coin's Max Humbert and Mr. and Mrs. David Akers, with Dr. and Mrs. Benito Legarda at right, during her farewell reception at the Marriott Hotel, Los Angeles, August 22, 1975.

## VISITORS TO THE MONEY MUSEUM

During its two years of existence, the Money Museum (MM) has been visited by 84,000 persons. It has already become a Mecca not only for the fast-growing breed of coin-collectors but also for students who comprise 70% of the total visitors. It seems that the primary objective for its establishment -- to generate nationwide interest on both the historic and educational aspect of numismatics -- has been realized if the number and geographical representation of visiting school groups can be taken as a gauge. Students from as far as Baguio in the north and Misamis in the south have included the MM in their educational tours.

The MM logbook indicates that a good number of students from almost all the schools from the elementary to the graduate level in the Greater Manila area had visited the Museum. Some schools have even required students majoring in Banking, Finance, Economics, History, Humanities and other related subjects to report

on the Money Museum and its correlation to their respective fields of specialization.

This might have accounted for the sharp increase in the number of coin-collectors in the country. Membership in the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society from 1929 to 1973 had barely reached the 500th mark but in only two years of operation of the MM, grown by 300 or a fantastic 60% increment. Moreover, it is estimated that there are 5,000 unregistered new coin-collectors in the country who took to the hobby mainly because of the promotional efforts of the Money Museum.

Personal and written inquiries about coin-collecting which were received and answered by the Money Museum attest to the growing awareness of the people to its dual role as a repository of the numismatic heritage of the nation and as a focal point for the exchange and dissemination of numismatic knowledge and ideas. ADM



Mr. William I. Spencer (in dark suit), President of the First National City Bank and a recent guest of Gov. G.S. Licaros (second from left) is shown being briefed by Antonio M. del Mundo of the Money Museum on the new proof coins of the Philippines. At extreme left is Mr. Wilford M. Farnsworth, senior vice-president and head of Citibank's Manila regional office.

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Tel. Nos. 58-28-68; 58-28-71 and 50-07-07.



